

charms Porthcawl. (See pages 6 & 7)

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keeping the status quo with library facilities is

be to build a new library

and leisure centre but

replacing

Recreation Centre alone would cost at least

£12m, which is beyond

what the council can

manage. Officers feel that

redeveloping the centre

is the most realistic

The report goes on: "The current Recreation

Centre provides a sub-stantial footprint and

floor areas which could

be redesigned to meet

current need."
(Continued on page 9)

alternative.

The best option would

also not viable.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH, 2010

Council considers multi-million pound moves

Town library could find a new home in **Recreation Centre**

MAJOR redevelop- opment of the ment proposed for Recreation Centre, as Bridgend part of its sports and physical activity stratewould see the town Street.

be moved to the same

site.

The scheme entails a reconfigcomprehensive reconfig-uration of the facilities to be provided at the complex. Two options are being considered but under both, the squash courts and the Planet Play area will be demolished and not replaced.

There is also a question mark over some of the indoor bowls facilities. The council's pre-ferred option would see the number of indoor bowling rinks reduced from eight to four, with part of the bowls hall used to accommodate

with the library located within the main build-

has agreed in principle to authorise the redevel-

Officers have been library moved there given the green light to from Wyndham carry out further work, to clarify the cost of the The reference library redevelopment options at Coed Parc would also be moved to the same funding.

Consultation made on which option to progress.

The report says that some of the activities now taking place at the sports hall could be transferred to sports facilities provided as part of the new part of the new Archbishop McGrath Brackla.

be encouraged to use becom alternative council or centre. private squash facilities.

The redevelopment of However, the other option would leave the bowls hall untouched, pool would be unaffect but it also has a subsidy

The redevelopment of centre attracts 200,000 is in an almitical at occur the library.

The redevelopment of centre attracts 200,000 is in a almitical at occur the attracts 200,000 is in a almitical at occur the attracts 200,000 is in a almitical at occur the attracts 200,000 is in a almitical at occur the attracts 200,000 is in a almitical at occur the attracts 200,000 is in a almitical at occur the attracts 200,000 is in a almitical at occur the attracts 200,000 is in a almitical at occur the attracts 200,000 is in a almitical at occur the attracts 200,000 is in a almitical at occur the attracts 200,000 is in a almitical at occur the attracts 200,000 is in a almitical at occur the attracts 200,000 is in a almitical at occur the attracts 200,000 is in a almitical at occur the attracts 200,000 is in a almitical at occur the attracts 200,000 is in a almitical at occur the attracts 200,000 is in a almitical at occur the attracts 200,000 is in a almitical at occur the attracts 200,000 is in almitical attracts 200

The plan is to gut the of £1m a year. building back to its steel frame and remove all the steel cladding. It would

by JAYNE ISAAC

would look like a new building.
The inside of the cen-

tre would be reconfig-ured, with the library being allocated some of

users and others would entrance area with a gallery where artwork any final decision is

The report stated that the need to redevelop Bridgend Recreation Centre was the top priority within the strategy, as

At present, the leisure from council taxpayers

The report said that its condition is deteriorate ing and up to £3m would then be given a whole have to be spent on it

The report argues that of the building. "do nothing" option is The report says that "do nothing" option is

goes

not viable. new external finish and It

"Expending the investment on a make-good basis will secure the facility in the short to mid term, but it would

and a such, not catering for the aspirations and needs of could be displayed. The view over Newbridge Fields would be opened up, with a café provided to take advantations. to take advantage of that. viable option.

The library provision in Bridgend has also been investigated. The town centre library in Wyndham Street is in part of the new liver o Public Squash players would library services. It would Library Standards and e encouraged to use become a 'Wellbeing' there are issues with disabled access.

The reference section centre attracts 500,000 is in an annexe at Coed

School blaze: four arrests

POLICE investigating a blaze at the former Blaencaerau Junior School have arrested a 21-yearold man and three male youths, all from the Maesteg area, on suspicion of arson. All four have been released on bail pending further enquiries, it was reported on Monday.

The fire broke out at about 9.50pm on Monday, February 1, and a number of neighbouring homes had to be

Anyone with information about this incident should contact Bridgend CID on 01656 679518 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Moving tribute to father of six

appealing for witnesses after a Bridgend motor cyclist died following a collision at 3.25pm on Friday, February 5, on the A48 at Margam, 100 metres east of the junction with Water Street.

The Honda Fireblade motorcycle was the only vehicle involved, and the rider was named as Mr Darren Rhys Morgan Campisi (32) from the Broadlands area of Bridgend.

He leaves his wife, Marie Campisi and six children aged from six years old to 14.

Mrs Campisi said: "Darren was a fantas-tic individual. He loved me and all the children with all his heart. He was a wonderful husband, father, brother and son.
"We would like to



LEFT: Darren pictured during a recent holiday.

thank all the kind people who stopped and assisted at the scene of this terrible accident.

Darren was brought up in the Sandfields area, where he went to the local comprehensive. On leaving sive. On leaving school, he joined Sea Cadets, later becoming the manager of the old Star Nightclub. Several years later,

with his brother Dean they set up a successful security firm known as 'Secure Serve', supplying security guards across the country.

Darren's main life

interests were his family, the business and riding both his jet skis and motorbike

A police family liaison officer is supporting the family.

Witnesses are sought to the collision and to the riding of the motor cycle concerned as it travelled with two others in a westbound direction along the A48 from Pyle towards Margam.

They are asked to contact either the Roads Policing Unit on 101, or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

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Praise the Lord we're a musical nation - as primary pupils underline!



Pastor Roy Lewis leads the applause as the teachers in charge of the school choirs line join Mrs Moon at the Brackla concert.

N Sunday January 24, I received a phone call from a member of **Bethlehem Life** Church in Cefn Cribbwr; the church had collected items of clothing to send to Haiti following the earthquake and wanted to know what I intended to do to aid the victims.

The next day I rang Neil Davies, the head-teacher of Myneth Cynffig Primary school, and suggested we hold a concert showcasing our excellent primary school children's choirs. Neil immediately said yes and

the idea was born.
The need for money in Haiti is urgent; with 63 per cent of infrastructure gone, 1.5 million homeless, no means of growing, buying or find-ing food and water except through emerneeded now.
The earliest it was felt the concert could be held was February 5.

Then it was suggested that for some schools, travelling to Cefn Cribbwr could be a prob-lem so Pastor Roy Lewis at Brackla Tabernacle offered a second venue

for February 4. So with nine and 10 working days to plan and organise the two con-certs, I turned to Lloyd

Roberts for help. Lloyd is a Porthcawl comprehensive school pupil who went on to read law at Nottingham University.

Since graduating, he has worked in Japan and China and speaks both languages. When the Chinese Embassy announced funding for five university places in China, Lloyd was an

obvious candidate.

He applied, has been successful, and returns to China in March. Lloyd has been working in the Bridgend constituency office helping to set up the parents meetings'

WESTMINSTER **NOTEBOOK**

Bridgend MP MADELEINE MOON describes how two 'magical evenings" have helped to boost the Haiti earthquake

with Microsoft on February 11.

Since he was already in touch with the schools, he helped with the organising and plan-

ning of the concerts.
For some schools the timetable was too tight; teachers needed to notify parents, plan and rehearse songs. It was a big ask. Despite all of the difficulties, the two concerts went ahead and were a great success.
At the Brackla con-

cert, two teachers from Maes yr Haul, Mrs Kenfig and Mrs Jones prepared the choir to sing 'Thank you for the Music', 'Love the Lord your God' and 'I'm a Small Part of the World'. It was especially good to see Mrs Mahoney, the recently-retired head teacher of the school come along to support the choir.

Trelales came next with Rhian Davies and Carole Lewis taking the choir through 'The Breakfast Song', 'Count your Blessings' and Whistle Down the Wind'. Headteacher Mr Clive Evans was also there urging the children

Before we heard the third choir there was a change of tempo. The audience had the opportunity to hear a breathtaking talent from Bridgend, Rachael Sterrit. Although only 15, Rachael plays piano as well as any concert pianist. Her two pieces

left people stunned by

the beauty of her play-

The third choir was

'Let it Be'. 'Hear I am Lord' was sung with the words also spoken' in British Sign language at the same audience could appreciate the song all over

again.
The final choir came from Cornelli Primary school with three teachers. Sue Roberts, Kirsty Evans and Sam Chidlow taking the choir through their three songs, 'This little Light of Mine', 'Living and Learning' and 'Mae Ganddo Byd Cyfan'

things, you learn a lot when you do something for the first time. We learned a great deal from the first night's concert so were prepared for the Friday evening in Bethlehem Life centre.

For the Friday night concert we had three choirs ready to impress Bryntirion started the evening supported by teachers Sharon Averis

atched by headteacher Dr Nigel Coombes and other staff members.

The children sang 'Crying out for Love', 'Abbefeth Addolug' and 'Colours of the Day'. Cefn Cribbwr, singing

on home turf, took the stage with confidence to sing 'I won't give up', 'Proud to be Welsh' and 'We are the Young'

Huw Irranca Davies MP and Coun Huw David, who also attended the concert, had told me of headteacher Mr Howell's love of sport and we debated whether the middle song was chosen in anticipation of success in the next day's rugby match against England! Teachers Elaine Kent and Wendy Jones certainly looked confident, though alas it was not to be!

Our final choir was Mynydd Cynfig and Catherine Brace, with the support of Mr Neil Davies and chair of gov ernors Mrs Gretta Rogers, beamed with pleasure while the children sang 'You are my Brother', 'Believe' and 'Hallelujah'

Tesco's had provided biscuits, chocolates and squash for the children a both concerts and they vere enjoyed with relish.
Pyle Co-op had pro-

vided a host of raffle prizes, which helped raise further funds dur-ing the interval.

After the interval. Rob Ashong played two pow erful guitar pieces and then all three choirs came back onto the

stage. With Bryntirion leading the way the three choirs sang a finale. Proud', the theme song for the Olympics.

The audience was then invited to join in and sing the song for a second time with the children. This rousing piece ended the concert, along with the news that it had raised £422.50.

Two magical evening raised a total of £807.60. These may have been the first concerts but they will certainly not be the last. Wales is rightly known for its male voice choirs, but we also have considerable hidden talent in our primary

LOCAL INFORMATION

MADELEINE MOON MP for Bridgend
Westminster office - 02072194417. Constituency
office - 47 Nolton Street, Bridgend. Open
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10am - 12pm
(by appointment only). Telephone 01656 750002.
HUW IRRANCA-DAVIES MP for Ogmore Constituency Office 01656 737777
JANICE GREGORY AM for Ogmore JANICE GREGORY AM for Ogmore
Constituency Office 01656 860034
CARWYN JONES AM for Bridgend
Constituency office 01656 664320
Bethan Jenkins AM for South West Wales
Telephone 01639 643549
BRIDGEND CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau,
Ground Floor, 26 Dunraven Place, Bridgend
CF31 1JD 01656 654951 – Open: Monday: 10am
to 2pm – information only; Tuesday to Friday:
10am to 12.30pm – advice sessions. Tuesday to
Friday 12.30pm to 1.30pm – information only.
MAESTEG CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau MAESTEG CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau 01656 734662 POLICE Bridgend 01656 655555

Porthcawl 01656 785411 Maesteg 01656 732122 CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555111 (Emergency number 999)

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DASH 01656 650086
SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families in need 01656 785435
RAF Association Welfare Officer
01495 249522/01446 740522

SAMARITANS (emotional support) 01656 662333 MENTAL DISTRESS (Mental Health Matters) 01656 767045

CHILDLINE 0800 1111 NSPCC 0800 800500 RSPCA 0300 123 0744 WOMEN'S AID 01656 766139

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HIGHWAYS EMERGENCIES
(outside normal working hours) 07831 143600
SOCIAL SERVICES
(general enquiries) 01656 642200

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HOSPITALS Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend 01656 752752/668090. Bridgend and District NHS Trust 01656 752752/668090.

VOLUNTARY WORK Bridgend Association of VOLUNIARY WORK Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) 01656 810400 TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS Brackla Community Council 01656 767072 Bridgend Town Council 01656 659943 Cefn Cribwr Community Council 01656 741354 Coity Higher Community Council 01656 656358 Cornelly Community Council **07882 044798**Pyle Community Council **01656 670251**Coychurch Higher Community Council

01656 863418 Coychurch Lower Community Council 01656 647216

Garw Valley Community Council **01656 736751**Laleston Community Council **01656 656506** Llangynwyd Lower Council 01656 720086 Maesteg Town Council 01656 732631 Merthyr Mawr Community Council 01656 670058 Newcastle Higher Community Council 01446

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gency relief. Money is

Rotarians praise the publicspirited young

singing the praises christmas bazaar – and of young people in the area.

"We reported in October of last year on the achievements of students from St Clare's School when attending RYLA at Dolygaer outdoor education centre, Pontsticill, Tydfil," spokesman Tudor Ralph recalled.

"Now we can report that the Interact Club at St John's School were very busy pre-Christmas

Rotarians are again dough Christmas presraising in excess of £70.

"They chose to sup-port a local charity – the Way Foundation – a self help group of people who had been widowed up to the age 50 – set up by Caroline Sarll following Merthyr a death within the family.

"Congratulations to the Interact Club on their wonderful achievement. The Rotary Club of Porthcawl appreciates ry busy pre-Christmas your hard work," Mr making and subse- Ralph added.

appeal fund.



from Archdeacon John Lewis, Judith Dummett conducted the choir who sang 'Abba Father', 'Hear I am Lord' and

time. An encore was called for, so that the

Head teacher Mrs Battrick was delighted when the choir again sang 'This Little Light of Mine', while Arch Deacon John Lewis signed the words on stage at the same time.

The concert raised £385.10. As with all

and John Ambani and

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL FEBRUARY 11)
The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE		Time	Ht	Time	Н
		AM	M	PM	N
11	Thur	04.51	8.3	17.15	8.4
12	Fri	05.32	8.8	17.56	8.7
13	Sat	06.11	9.2	18.29	9.1
14	Sun	06.44	9.5	19.01	9.3
15	Mon	07.17	9.6	19.31	9.4
16	Tues	07.47	9.6	19.58	9.4
17	Wed	08.14	9.6	20.27	9.3
18	Thur	08.46	9.4	20.59	9.2
117	1.:1. TL.	CEM		Cf 4 1	1. 41

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide tablespecific to their location.

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Horace (by royal appointment) and Gwyneth celebrate 60 years of bliss!



ABOVE: Rosemary Brown (niece), Horace Drake, Gwyneth Drake, Coun Jeff Tildesley, Mrs Lydia Hopkin (Horace's sister).

PHOTOGRAPHS by KEITH E MORGAN

A LOCAL couple recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in style, with family members arriving en masse at their home in Brocastle Manor, Bridgend.

The Diamond
Wedding of Mr and Mrs
Horace G Drake of 26,
Greenfield Way, Bridgend, was celebrated on February 5, when they were congratulated Mayor of County the Bridgend Borough, Coun Jeff Tildesley.

Horace Drake met

Gwyneth on the village green in Aberkenfig. They were both just 16. They were married some years later in 1950 at Newcastle Church, Pridgad by the Per

ar Newcastie Church, Bridgend, by the Rev Thomas James. They spent their hon-eymoon in France. Horace worked for the GWR at the time, and Gwyneth was a nurse.

Gwyneth was a nurse.
At the outbreak of the
Second World War,
Horace was called up at
20 years of age and
joined the Railways
Operating Corps of the
Royal Engineers, and served for six years as an engine driver in Iraq, Iran and Italy, supplying



ABOVE: Gwyneth and Horace Drake pictured outside Newcastle Church, Bridgend, on their wedding day.

troops with tanks, muni-

tions and equipment.
On demob after the end of the war, he rejoined the GWR at Tondu before moving to Plymouth from 1952 to 1963, and then to Cardiff from 1963 until 1984.

While in Cardiff, Horace had the honour of driving the Royal Train down from Paddington to Port Talbot on May 12, 1970, Port with the Queen and Prince Philip on board.

She was on her way to open the new Basic Oxygen Steelmaking Plant at Abbey Works,

and the new Deep Wate Harbour at Port Talbot.

Surprisingly, the Queen is not allowed to travel through the Severn Tunnel, so the train had to come via Gloucester.

the During the war Gwyneth was nursing in Mountain Ash General Hospital and also in the Lady Aberdare

Maternity Hospital.
Gwyneth and Horace who are now both in their 90s, have a very tight-knit family – two married sons and one married daughter, and seven grand-children!



ABOVE: The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh arriving

Court orders a couple to repay crime earnings

A MAESTEG cou- ordered to pay £144,437 laundering and supply of drugs case, have been ordered sands of pounds.

Coed Parc, Maesteg, were arrested with others in relation to offences of conspiracy to supply

Both pleaded guilty to their charges in 2008. Lee was sentenced to eight months' imprisonment, suspended for two years, with an additional order of 200 hours unpaid work; and Roberts was sentenced to 14 years' imprisonment.

Following a financial investigation by the regional asset recovery team in Wales, Lee and Roberts were brought for a Proceeds of Crime

Act hearing.
The court heard that the pair had passed more than £200,000 through their bank accounts and had purchased two properties, now valued at more than £500,000.

ple who were at the (the total of her available centre of a money assets) within six months, with a default prison sentence of three years.

Matthew to pay back thou- criminal benefit was established as £2 million. Early in 2007, as a result of a South Wales Police operation in the Maesteg and Bridgend areas, Diann Lee and Matthew Roberts of Cwrt

Sath Wales established as £2 million. He was ordered to pay £173,123 (the total of his available assets) within six months, with a default prison sentence of an additional three of an additional three years.

Detective laundering and Inspector Chris Dodd, said:

"The asset recovery team in Wales has had a significant impact this year on career criminals, with particular success in the South Wales Police area

"We are determined to remove the benefits of criminality from those that undermine our communities.

"This case highlights once again that the team will support South Wales back to court in Cardiff Police in their efforts to pursue, prosecute and deprive drug dealers of their assets.

The recovered money will be used to fund additional police activity support community projects and provide addi Diann Lee's criminal tional funds to the Courts benefit was established Service and Crown as £250,000. She was Prosecution Service.

Iraq hero's mum issues urgent plea for support

A LOCAL appeal set up in memory of joined forces with a a soldier killed in Iraq is looking for support.

The Craig Barber Memorial Fund has been established by his mother, Cheryl Rowlands of Blaengarw.

She is hoping to raise villa for wounded miliary personnel at Golden Grove mansion near

Llandeilo. She has charity based there which is also fund rais-

ing.
Cheryl, who is a nurse, needs good quali-ty items she can sell at car boot sales and other events, She needs clothing, books, toys, bric-abrac and jewellery.

Anyone able to help should contact her o

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Mayor hot foots it for animal charity

Bridgend borough, Coun Jeff Tildesley, has promised to firewalk in aid of his local cats protection centre.

He has pledged to support the Cats Protection's Bridgend Adoption Centre which is organis-

Centre which is organising a sponsored firewalk
in March.
Coun Tildesley told
The GEM: "I have been
told that it is a matter of
mind over matter, but I will have a friend stand-ing by with a fire extin-guisher."

The centre is asking fearless cat lovers to contact the centre and sign up for a 20-foot barefoot walk over burning hot coals on the evening of Saturday, March 27, at the centre in Pant

Hirwaun, Bryncethin. All funds raised will help the centre to look after and find homes for unwanted cats & kittens.

Coun Tildesley is very much looking forward to the firewalk, saying: "I am happy to be support-ing the Cats Protection at Bridgend.

"I feel it is worthwhile to raise much needed funds, and other Mayors in neighbouring authorities have also offered their support by attend-

ing and by sponsorship"
Sue Dobbs, the centre's manager said: "We are thrilled that Coun Tildesley will be joining us for what should be a

very exciting event.
"Many people who have completed a firewalk speak of how inspirational it is, and all funds raised will help us to give unwanted cats a second chance in life

"We only have a limited number of spaces available though, so if you'd like to take part then please contact the centre

The event, sponsored by Shepherds the Vets, starts at 4pm with stalls, a tombola, raffle and



ABOVE: The Mayor on a visit to the cat protection centre.

Contact the centre on take part. 01656 724 396 or e-mail

"People who have bridgend@cats.org.uk to signed up for the fire- request an application walk are asked to attend a form. Participants will training session starting need to provide a £25 at 6pm, before braving registration fee and those burning embers at agree to a fundraising 8.30pm." target of £125 in order to Contact the centre of the provide as the provide

Former Kenfig priest takes on new parish



The Assistant Bishop with Rev Richard Spencer.

REV Richard Spencer, formerly priest in charge of the parish of Kenfig Hill, whose mother and other members of his family reside in Cowbridge, has taken over his Cardiff parish.

The Assistant Bishop of Llandaff, the Right Reverend David Willbone, performed the ceremony which licensed Rev Spencer as priest in charge of the parish of Christ Church, Roath Park, Cardiff

He was also commissioned as Diocesan Director of Ordinands for the Diocese of Llandaff.

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Bridgend programme claims success in tackling child obesity

designed to tackle child obesity is running successfully in Bridgend county borough there is still time to book a place on the next course.

A team from the Active Young People Department (AYPD) at Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) is running the programme, called programme, MEND (Mind Nutrition... Exercise, Do It!), which is based at Ynysawdre Swimming

The programme received a boost recently when it was praised in the journal 'Obesity'. An independent study has pointed to its success with overweight and

obese children.

MEND is currently running a programme in Ynysawdre swimming pool for children aged seven – 13. It is the third programme to have run in the Bridgend area, and so far it has helped more than 43 local families become fitt healthier and happier.

In the independent study, 116 children aged between eight and between eight and 12 years took part, and they went on a nine-week MEND programme, followed by 12-weeks of free family swimming between January 2007 and January 2007.

Those who took part in the study lost weight, lowered their Body Mass Index (BMI) and circumference, and improved their self esteem and physical activity levels.

Their general health, including cardiovascular

fitness, also improved. Jane Thomas, MEND programme manager for Bridgend said: "This new study provides rock-solid evidence that the MEND programme helps children lose weight and keep it off, as well as improving their

wen as improving their self-esteem.
"To have the study results published in Obesity journal is a clear indicator that the MEND

Programme is working. "These research findings prove that teaching children how to keep fit and eat healthily, as we do on the MEND Programme, does work

if done in the right way."
She explained how the programme works. First, a parent or guardian needs to check on the MEND website calculate the BMI of the child.

Children above a certain BMI qualify for the course, which lasts 10 weeks, with two, twohour sessions each

first hour is devoted to nutrition advice and information, while the secnd hour is put aside for a variety of over to Dogs Trust



ABOVE: Children who have been through the MEND programme.

physical activities.

However, on the MEND programme, a parent or guardian has to be involved as well. They are required to be there for the first hour and then, while the child does something active, the second hour is set aside for discussion and information about the issue of being over-

Jane Thomas said: "The adults might want to talk about whether the child is being bullied, or anything related to adopting a more healthy lifestyle.

'One session is a visit to Sainsburys, hunting for healthier foods and learning to spot the difference between high and low-fat foods.

"Sainsburys have been really supportive and even put on a healthy buffet!"

She continued: "MEND is currently running a programme in Ynyswadre Swimming Pool, Bridgend, and we aim to run three more throughout the year to ensure more children in the area can benefit.

The independent study, conducted by a team at University
College London
Institute of Child Health (ICH), was the first ran-domised controlled trial in the UK to investigate the benefits of a community-based child weight management gramme.

Professor Atul Professor Atul Singhal, paediatrician and head of clinical tri-als in the Childhood Nutrition Research Centre at ICH, said: "These results suggest that the MEND programme helps over-weight and obese chil-

dren lose weight.
"They also show that child weight management programmes have a positive effect on a child's health and so could help to address the

rising obesity problem in children."

By the final year of primary school, nearly one in three children aged 10 or 11 is overweight, according to the latest data from the Government's national child measurement programme in schools

For more informa-tion, or to register for the MEND programme at Ynysawdre, call Mari Sutton on 01656
642741, or for more
MEND information
freephone 0800 230
0263 or visit www.mend-

Great Crested Newt moves house!

THE protected Great Crested Newt is on the move - to a secure new habitat in Bridgend county borough.

Special ponds are being provided at Sker Farm, where the borough council is teaming up with the South Wales Amphibian and Reptile Group (SWARG), Environment Agency Wales (EAW) and a local contractor.

"The one-metre deep ponds with shallowly sloping sides will provide wildlife with easy access to the ponds without danger of falling in and drowning," a spokeswoman

"The ponds will be lined and covered with a special material called bentonite, and then filled with water. As amphibians such as the Great Crested Newt live mainly on land and only go to ponds to mate in the spring and early summer, south-facing log and stone habitat piles will be constructed and covered with turf which will also benefit other species.'

Other environmental work under way at Sker Farm includes hedge laying, dry stone walling and tree planting by the council's coastal volunteer wardens, funded by the Countryside Council for

Local actor gets an Olivier nomination

for first stage role

After a Bridgend Youth Theatre production, 16-year-old Aneurin Barnard (right) is pictured with Roger Burnell and Rob Brydon.

A FORMER star of the Bridgend Youth Theatre has been nominated for a West End theatre Olivier Award for A FORMER star of

Aneurin Barnard, who is still only 22, has been nominated as 'Best Actor in a Musical' for his lead in Spring

Awakening.
The show, which sadly is no longer runnning. has received a postumous garland of seven nominations – the most for any musical.

Aneurin, who was a star performer for the Bridgend Youth Theatre under Roger Burnell, has at least one big name up against him – Rowan Atkinson – who has been nominated for his role as

Fagin in Oliver! Spring Awakening, described by some critics as the first really success ful rock musical, opened in the 500-seat Lyric Theatre in Hammersmith to rave reviews and to full houses.

Aneurin, in particular, needed, and closed last

nated for best supporting actor in a musical.

However, when the even bett show transferred to a Kelly rol 1,000-seat West End the atre, it failed to get the extra audience numbers

boy.

He was a superb lead in Damn Yankees, and even better in the Gene Kelly role in Singing in

PHILIP IRWIN

Mayor in talks with the new chief constable



COUN Jeff Tildesley, Mayor of Bridgend county borough, welcomed Peter Vaughan, the new Chief Constable of the South Wales Police

Chief Constable of the South Wales Police authority, to the Mayor's parlour last week. The Mayor congratulated the Chief Constable, and discussed the proposed policy for policing the area covered by the authority, with special reference to Bridgend centre and its environs.

PICTURE BY KEITH E MORGAN.

Why not choose Belle as your special Valentine?

Bridgend is offering a Valentine 'date' that will definitely lead to a lasting relationship.

Faithful, cute and remembering to send you a Valentine's card, sponsor dog Belle is looking for the perfect partner this February 14.

Just £1 a week will help provide food, bedding, affection and vet-erinary care for a chosen Dogs Trust sponsor dog. In return, you will not only receive regular news from them in the form of letters,

Valentine and Christmas cards, but also a certificate in your name and regular copies of the Dogs Trust magazine Wag!

Dogs Trust Bridgend manager Beverley Price said: "Belle is a fouryear-old West Highland White who was handed



BELLE.

Bridgend following a family split. Sadly, because she is very scared of other dogs and people, she can't be rehomed.

"However, she has recently made friends with a terrier called Benji, which is a giant step for Belle.
"Belle has skin aller-

gies so needs regular medicated baths, but this isn't a problem because she loves them. She's a bit of a tomboy and likes getting her coat muddy especially when she's playing foot-ball with Benji. Belle is currently undertaking her Good Citizen Bronze Award which involves lots of training she loves it and it has really increased her confidence levels."

She added: 'Sponsoring a dog is an ideal way to care for a dog, even if you can't have one yourself. Many sponsor dogs can be visited and you can even send them special treats and gifts.

"There are lots of lovely dogs to choose from, so if you would like to find out more about sponsoring a rescue dog from Dogs Trust, then simply call 020 7837 0006 and set it up on the phone, or go to our website at ww.sponsoradog.co.uk

Note: Unfortunately Belle cannot be visited by her sponsors.

Skills finals for **Bridgend College**

BRIDGEND College is hosting the Junior SkillsCompetition Wales Regional and National Finals on February 24 and March 28 together with the regional heat of the Skill M&E competitions on April 28-29.

The events will be held at the new construction academy training centre, Pencoed Campus.

Who wants to build what and where in the borough?

Whitehouse Dental Clinic – 14 Brackla Way, Brackla, play area (amended house type).

Coychurch Road, Pencoed – Bridgend – new entrance and Miss H Lewis – 7 Fairplace

foundation of concrete.
BCBC parks section – land rear
of 10 Oak Terrace, Coytrahen, **Bridgend** – reduce height and reduce weight on large fork lean-

ing towards houses of oak tree ((1998) BCBC No 01).

Mr G Morgan – 1 Ty Fry Close,
Brynmenyn, Bridgend – demolish existing garage and erect two
storey extension to side of proper-

ty. Mr K Walford – **14 Ton Glas,** Pyle – single storey extension to side and rear.

free-standing acrylic monolith reception extension, extension to advertisement sign mounted on a infant hall, refurb ray hollow unit and permanent rear access road. Miss M Evans and Mrs K Evans –

> - fire escape/access. Mr G Watts - 137 Heol Ty Gwyn, Nantyffyllon, Maesteg – conversion of integral garage to study with extension.

Highland Electrix – 29 Bryn Kenfig Hill – first floor rear Road, Tondu – porch to front between bay windows, two storey

Mrs C Key – 10 Esgair y Maes, extension to rear to house new

Mr James - 56 Heol West Plas, retained to front and part convert-Coity - tiled roof porch to front ed to additional room with win-

side and rear.

Mr and Mrs Harding – 3 Heol
Bryncwthyn, Pencoed – extension over existing garage.
BCBC Children's Directorate – Brackla Primary School,

Cony – uncu 1607 potential and dow inserted to side.

Mr M O'Sullivan – land next to Stedan Estates – Oddfellows

Stedan Estates – Oddfellows

Court, Tonna Road, Maesteg – Four new houses.

Close, Broadlands, Bridgend single storey rear extension

Mr M Hughes - 66 Heol 46-48 Dunraven Place, Bridgend Bryncwils, Sarn – two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and porch to front elevation.

Mr D Jenkins - 4 Laing Street,

Mrs C Key - 10 Esgair y Maes, Broadlands, Bridgend - garage

Your chance to share the local news

Charity disco THE British Heart Foundation charity has organised a line dance disco at the Masonic Hall, Tremains Road , Bridgend on Friday, February 12.

7.30pm. Entry is £4 and there will be refreshments available. Everyone is welcome, but please try and wear something red in colour.

For more information, telephone W 01656 655893. Wendy on

Help for Haiti TONDU Prima TONDU Primary School recently organ-ised a collection for the Haiti appeal, based on the novel idea of giant maps of Haiti being covered with silver coins by the pupils.

The school was hop-ing to raise a total of £200, which they would donate to the Disasters Emergency Committee for Haiti. The school choir was

taken to Bristol to see the High School Musical.

The school is involving relatives and friends of pupils in class assem-

12, at 10.20am.

Three pupils are to be congratulated for taking part in a primary schools cross-country race at Port h c a w l Trust walk

Comprehensive School. STAFF at South and Grindly. Grindle, and

council

THE

THE Llangan Community Council meeting on February 1, opened with a warm welcome from Coun Linda Vafidis to two new members, Mel Wharmby and Sally Treharne who will rep-resent Fferm Goch, St Mary Hill.

The vacancy was due

to the retirement of Coun Mike Hall, who had rep-resented the ward for 25

Community

the replacement boiler and the kitchen although

toilet is now complete.

Planning

now been completed on months.

centres

Llangan

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

of the GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL 1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ TEL: 01656 725399 email: tynycoed1@yahoo.co.uk

their school!

Choir concerts
GARW Valley male choir (cor meibion Cwm Garw) will be putting on a concert at Southerndown golf club on Monday, March 1, where they will be singing a variety of tra-

performers at a charity concert to raise funds for the Royal National Lifeboat Institute appeal at Cowbridge town hall on March 26

Quiz cash Garth Primary School has thanked the quiz

e School. STAFF at South and Friday, July 2. It costs a Lowri West Wales Wildlife great deal of money to Danielle Trust's Parc Slip nature keep a choir in existence at Megan reserve are organising a as all uniforms are sup-Hanney and Megan reserve are organising a Speck. They deserve a Valentine's trail suitmedal for braving the icy able for young children elements to represent aged between three and

their planting.

being stolen.

Correction

vandalised

DURING the night o

to an elderly Treoes res

ident was vandalised,

Monday, January 29, a Citroen car belonging

Car

of music.
This choir was formed COMMUNITY **NEWS** TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

Charity work Community Treoes, will be in order in time for the March meeting of the Community Council so that applicants for the Tythodwg's proposed allotments will be able to begin

since been have informed that she and other members of the society have produced many different items for the town council on 01656 782215.

The cost is £1.50 per of the year.

The leader of this craft

The leader of this craft child, with no charge for responsible adults but donations would be appreciated. Places can be booked by telephoning 01656 724100.

singing a variety of traditional and popular Children's choir
songs to celebrate St
David's Day (Dydd
Gw'yl Ddewi).

The choir members
are also invited as guest
are also invited as guest
are also invited as guest Maesteg tal. Assembly's St David's Day gala dinner at Cardiff City Hall on Monday, March 1.

One of the soloists, Rhian Hughes, was an outstanding finalist in the Bridgend young singer of the year competition at

Maesteg town hall.
The choir will be holding its annual concert at Maesteg town hall on great deal of money to being keep a choir in existence Salisbury. as all uniforms are sup-plied, along with copies

25 years ago when it had 12 members. In January this year, a further four members joined which brought the total to 48

LAST wee, I wrote about mrs Joan Webb of Ogmore Valley Ladies Choir and Society, who embroidered frontals for St Church, Glynogwr.

eight on Tuesday, sale over the years, the February 16 between money from which is 10am-12noon.

section of the society, Mrs Alva Matthews, also does voluntary work at Y Bwthyn, which helps cancer sufferers at the Princess of Wales hospi-

The craft section has a dedicated group of mem-Sian Hughes with bers whose ages range accompanist Ryan from 16-100! (Mrs Ivy bers whose ages range Wood, has been invited Hawkins) and it has to perform at the Welsh donated thousands of pounds over the years to many charities.

It meets at the Welfare Hall, Ogmore Vale every Wednesday evening between 6.30pm-8pm, and visitors are welcome.

Bridgend foodbank FOODBANKS were started by the Trussell ity in 1999, the first one opened

There is now a net-work of 40 of these food-Bridgend CBC

Green.

disaualified!"

opening in 2009. Recent figures have shown 28 per cent of children in Wales are living at or below recognised poverty levels.

During December, 64 people from 18 families were provided with food from the foodbank.

To help restock the foodbank, a collection of food is being organised at Tesco's store, Cowbridge Road, Bridgend Friday, February between 10am-6pm. All donations of dried or tinned food that are within their use by date and are undamaged would be appreciated.

The foodbank also volunteers. For needs further information, telephone Anne on 01656 668870/651206 or e-mail bridgendfoodbank@aol.c

Donation

THEbalance Aberkenfig and District United Churches' funds of £200 has been donated to the Haiti disaster fund.

Wall concern

MEMBERS of St Tythodwg's Church, Glynogwr are expressing concern about the condition of the church-Trust, a Christian char- yard boundary wall on the South side of the church yard which is believed to be the

Youth Theatre tackles two Willie Russell classics

Bridgend Youth Theatre is putting on an featuring evening two early plays by the renowned Liverpool writer, Willie Russell, who went on to write the hit films Educating Rita and Shirley Valentine.

Both plays will be performed each night, on February 18 and 19, at Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl.

The first, Our Day Out, is one of Russell's earliest pieces, and was broadcast by the BBC in 1976. Reviews at the time marked him out as a dramatist to watch.

It tells the story of a group of school pupils on a day out under the supervision of their teachers. Not surprising-ly with Willie Russell, the pupils were originally from Liverpool, and the day out was in Colwyn Bay. For the Porthcawl show, the action has been moved to south Wales.

The second play is much better known, but it became famous only after Russell decided to turn it into a musical.

As a result, the story line of Blood Brothers is very well known, as the show has either been in the West End, or touring the UK, for the last 25

However, for this evening, the story of two brothers who are sepa-rated at birth, but whose paths cross again later in life, will be performed without the music.

The Willie Russell evening marks the start of a busy period for the youth theatre. In April, the junior youth theatre will be performing the Disney musical, Mulan,



ABOVE: Scott Dale (left) and Luke Bevan in rehearsal for Our Day Out.

while the seniors' big Headmistress show this year is a real challenge, the Stephen Sondheim classic horror musical, Sweeney Todd.

Our Day Out

cast list
Mrs Kay – Lauren
Saunders; Mr Briggs –
Scott Dale; Colin – Luke
Bevan; Susan – Kathryn
Allen; Bus Driver –
Kieran Bluck; Reilly – Josh Daniels; Digga Harvey Jones; Ronson Gethin Williams; Linda

– Carys Rowlands;
Jackie – Abbie Owen;
Carol – Hazel Elstone; Andrews – Lewis Coster; Bored Gir – 1; Chloe Carson – Bored Girl 2; Rebecca Morgan; Maurice – Jack Gillard; Maurice – Jack Gillard; Milton – Hywel Price; Sharon - Kate Jones: Shopkeeper - Leanne Adshead; Zoo Keeper – Ieuan Briers;

Hannah Parker; Les/Kid - Sam Sayce; Parent – Jack Davies; Parent – Mari Izzard; Parent – Lowri Izzard; Parent – Jessica

Blood **Brothers** cast list

The Mother – Mel Stevens; Mickey – Joe Wiltshire Smith; Eddie – Corey Bridgeman; Linda Natasha Bryant; Mrs Lyons - Rebecca Howe; The Narrators - Rhys Causon, James Gillard, Matthew Jones, Sam Bennett. Bethan Bennett. Rebecca Masson, Brown, Lauren James, Naomi Rune; Milkwoman – Rebecca Brown; Doctor – James Gillard; Policeman -Rhys Causon; Kids – Naomi Rune, Lauren James, Bethan Masson.



ABOVE: Lauren Saunders (left) and Kathryn Allen play harassed teachers in Our Day Out.

Learning about

St Petersburg

News in brief

Both have been invited to attend to answer questions about the problems and defects

Councillors have agreed that no further payments will be made to the firm until they attend a meeting with

• DEPUTY mayor Coun Mary Emment Lewis has been confirmed as mayor-elect and will take office at the annual meeting in

DRESIDENT, Joy Brooking welcomed everyone to the first

meeting of 2010.
As the January meeting was postponed due to snow, there was a full agenda to discuss.

Toni Farrant refreshed our memories with the minutes for December and Pauline Charles reminded members that subscriptions were due.

The county newslet-ters gave details of future events. The halfyearly Spring council meeting will be on April 22 at St David's Hall, guest speaker will be the renowned Ruth Jones.

Various local walks were on offer, and further afield, a guided walk of Cheltenham on April 29. For those who want to get away, a Denman weekend has been arranged for later

in the year. The lunch club

LLANHARRY WI NEWS arranged to meet on February 19 at an old favourite, The Bear Inn,

Llanharry.
The speaker for the evening was Jacqui King, who spoke, with the aid of slides, about St Petersburg. Jacqui is a cruise ship guide and told us it is a beautiful city, full of history, with magnificent buildings. and it has to be one of her favourite places.

During social time, refreshments were enjoyed and members had the opportunity of buying off the sales

The competition 'a Russian memento' was won by Rita Butt, who has visited St Petersburg, and the raffle by Toni Farrant.

Joy Brooking announced the next meeting will be on March 2, when Lucy Williams will speak on the History of Waitrose.

Read your GEM online at bridgend-today.co.uk porthcawl-today.co.uk

years.

THE WELSH ARSENAL THE monthly

FASCINATING TALK ON

which resulted in all four wheel hubcaps meeting on Tuesday, The owner is extreme February 2 in Penllyn Village ly upset as he had only TREOES - Work has had the vehicle for a few Hall, was opened by president. Novello

the kitchen is still in need MY report in The GEM Peters. of painting.

on Thursday, February
LLANGAN AND ST 4 stated my age as being The minutes, read by the assistant secretary, MARY HILL - Work on 78 years; this was the disabled facility in incorrect, the article Jane Exell, were accepted and signed. Members the hall and the refur-bishment of the ladies of years I have been were then informed that they would now receive driving which is 68 their own copy of the Glamorgan newsletter, HOPEFULLY, plan-ning consent for the tennis court area, 6, 2010! with absentees' copies being delivered to them.

The attention of members was drawn to various forthcoming events.
Members were

encouraged to enter the short story writing com-petition, 'Every picture tells a story,' and were informed that the theme for this year's WI County Show is 'Down

PENLLYN & DISTRICT WI

Pancakes at

the ready!
THE Porthcawl Pancake Race takes place on

Sunday February 21 at 12.15pm on Newton

It is staged every year by the town council and

many local organisations enter teams, with all pro-

The event is for teams of four people and every-one has to bring their own frying pan, but the pan-

ceeds going to the Porthcawl Civic Fund, which raises funds for the Mayor's chosen charities.

cakes are supplied.

The rules state that each pancake has to be

tossed five times en route. A list of the rules includes the immortal line: "Dodgy tossers will be

Anyone interested in entering should contact

the Garden Path'. The president welcomed the speaker for the evening, Mike Clubb, who gave an excellent presentation entitled 'A Welsh Arsenal'. He explained the building, and the workings of The Royal Ordnance Factory at Bridgend, gave details of employees' work in the various departments, and stressed its importance in the Second World

Members were amazed to hear that at one time more than 30,000 people worked in the arsenal in Bridgend, and that 75 per cent of those were women. They also heard that a plaque has been erected recently in the centre of Bridgend to commemorate the 15

people who lost their lives in accidents at the arsenal.

The speaker was thanked by Novello Peters, the raffle was drawn and the competi-tion, 'an old photograph,' was judged. The next meeting will

be held in Penllyn Village Hall on March 2 at 7.30pm, when Bill Price and Peter Mail will talk on 'The History of Campanology'.

New members are always warmly wel-comed. The branch meets on the first Tuesday of the month, at .30pm in Penllyn Village Hall.

For further information, contact Novello (01656 674191(or Mariorie (01656

THE issue of the Christmas street lighting in Porthcawl is to be raised with contractors Lumalite and **Bridgend County** Borough Council at a meeting of Porthcawl Town Council on February 25.

with the lighting.

councillors

Porthcawl Comprehensive School packs out the Pavilion with an old favourite



IT was another successful four nights when Porthcawl Comprehensive performed the evergreen musical *Annie*.

The young cast played each night to houses that were almost full – even on Saturday, when there were fears that the late kick-off between Wales and England might have an effect.

Once again, the school proved that it has great strength in depth in stage talent – and in fact had two Annies, with Lydia Ellis on stage Wednesday and Friday, and the aptly-named Harmony Miller taking the role on Thursday and Saturday.

and Saturday.

Certainly, the energy and stage-craft of the performers overcame the one big problem with *Annie*.

After all, look at the plot. A catasphoric economic depression, banks on their last legs, and a government wondering what to do.

a government wondering what to do.

How could a modern audience relate to that?

BELOW: Ryan Jenkins, Harmony Miller (Annie) and Jessica Evans (Grace Farrell).





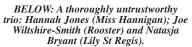
ABOVE: Hard times in the 1930s depression as the workers wait for an economic upturn.



Photos by MANDY THOMAS
(Available for purchase,
telephone 07974 518347)
These and other pictures of
the event can be viewed on
www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk



ABOVE: Ryan Jenkins as Oliver 'Daddy' Warbucks.











Annie's subtle combination of sweetness and satire is still fresh in the modern era

Photos by MANDY THOMAS (Available for purchase, telephone 07974 518347) These and other pictures of the event can be viewed on www.mandvthomasphotographv.co.uk



ABOVE: Lydia Ellis played Annie on Wednesday and Friday.



ABOVE: Hannah Jones gets into character as Miss Hannigan.



















ABOVE: Joe Wiltshire-Smith minus hat!



CAST LIST

MAIN CHARACTERS: Annie Berry; Henry Morgenthau – Pugh-Bevan, Emma Phillips,

Lydia Ellis (Wednesday and Matthew Osborne; Louis Howe – Carys Phillips, Jemimah
Friday); Annie – Harmony Millar Owain Miller.

Williams-Rumble.

SENIOR CHOPUS: Kethryn Phonyller (No. 1754)

Millership; July – Tabitha Carrington/Lois Rossini; Duffy – Carrington/Lois Rossini; Duffy – Sims, Jodie Teear, Caitlin Jessica Schofield /Bronwen Walters, Bethan Williams, Joe Davies; Kate – Hannah Willshire-Smith. Berry/Bethan Masson; Tessie – Jessica Beesley/Harriet Rees.

Pepper - Hazel Elstone/Lucy Zoe Parris, Bethan Rees, Tom Tabitha Sheppard, Jamie Sayce, Courtney

Jessica Beesley/Harriet Rees.
SERVANTS: Miss Greer – Rebecca Hurn, Harriet Maine, Susanne Owen; Miss Pugh – Sally Morgan, Lauren Owens, Williams; Annette – Roisin Evans.
CABINET: Cordell Hull – Philip Pickett; Francis Perkins – Kathryn Allen; Harold Ickes – Jon

Emma Baker, Eleri Connick, Annik Cartwright, Zoe Davis, Rebecca Hurn, Harriet Maine, James Baynham, Yasmine Jones, Conner Watkins, Rebecca Hurn, Frankie Grant, Matthew Harris, Harriet Grant, Matthew Harris, Harriet Harry, Catrin Hardwick, Laura Thompson, Tracey Lambert, Holly Thelwell, Alice Power, Emma Hill, Olivia Jones.

Jemimah

Hannigan – Hannah Jones; Oliver Allen, Leanne Adshead, Corey Warbucks – Ryan Jenkins; Grace Bridgeman, Jon Berry, Rebecca Musical Director, Linda Warbucks – Ryan Jenkins; Grace
Farrell – Jessica Evans; Rooster
Joe Wiltshire-Smith; Lily St
Nakisia Bryant; Drake – Daniels, Hope Dabernig, Seana
Owain Hume; Bert Healy – Corey
Bridgeman, Jon Berry, Rebecca
Owain Hume; Bert Healy – Corey
Bridgeman, Jon Berry, Rebecca
Owain Hume; Bert Healy – Corey
Bridgeman, Jon Berry, Rebecca
Musical
Director, Linda
Comombes;
Production
Manager/Assistant Director,
Manager/Assistant Musical
Manager/Assistant Musical
Manager/Assistant Musical
Manager/Assistant Musical
Manager/Assistant Musical
Manager/Assistant Musical
Miller, Manager, Mathan
Miller; Sound Effects Man – Hume, Jess Kilpatrick, Sarah
Hume, Jess Kilpatrick, Sarah
Furion Griffiths; The Boylan
Sisters – Ali Delgado, Sophie
Miller, Sound Effects Man – Hume, Jess Kilpatrick, Sarah
Howe, Josie Loye; Franklin D
Roosevelt – Kieran Bluck.
NAMED ORPHANS: Molly – Calum Pearsall, Dan PughMegan Goldberger/Olivia Norris;
Bevan, Richard Price, Tom Parry,
Mootton; Lighting, Anthony
Callaghan; Sound, Wayne
Francis; Sound Assistant, Sam
Buffett; Choreography, Kelly
Hardwick, Linda
Coombes,
Rachel Bowen-Jones;
Assistant Musical
Musical
Musical
Musical
Musical
Musical
Musical
Miler, Manager/Assistant Musical
Manager/Assistant Musical
Manager/Assistant Musical
Milerombes,
Manager/Assistant Musical
Manager/Assistant Musical
Musical
Manager/Assistant
Myel Owens;
Assistant Stage Manager, Nathan
Milerottor, Liphing
Manager/Assistant
Myel Owens;
Assistant Stage
Manager/Assistant
Myel Owens;
Assistant Stage
Manager/Assistant
Myel Owens;
Mathew Owens,
Mathew Owens Rachel Bowen-Jones, Kathryn Allen; Set, John Richards, DT Department, Peter Roach, Anthony Callaghan, Hywel Owens, BTEC Group; Properties, Anthony Callaghan, Nathan Wootton, BTEC Group; Painters, an Witsnire-Smith.

ORPHANS: Rachel Allen,
Emma Baker, Eleri Connick,
Rebecca Hurn, Harriet Maine,
Sally Morgan, Lauren Owens,
Drooke Parr-Jones,
Sally Morgan, Marthew Harris,
San Brooke Parr-Jones,
Sally Morgan, Marthew Harris,
San Brooke Parr-Jones,
Sally Morgan, Matthew Harris,
Sally Morgan, Lauren Owens,

Store's free car park could cost town council £800,000

Bridgend town centre have been to park for nothing at hit by the decision Asda. to scrap charges It has also ancreas shopping patterns, skewat the Asda car park.

council also stands to lose more than £800,000 in car parking income from the deci-

A report to cabinet this rradd, corporate director storey car park in for communities, reveals that both individual traders and the chamber of trade have complained of a drop in footfall in the town's prime shopping. week, from Louise Fradd, corporate director town's prime shopping street – Adare Street – and other town centre council about the man-streets including agement of the new store

The cause of this drop year. is blamed on the decision That for up to three hours at its space car park.

Prior to this, the council operated a pay and on Tuesday, Ms Fradd display car park there went on: "As a result (of with the same level of that report), the develop-charges as at its other car er was required as part of charges as at its other car

The cabinet has now been told that since the into a car park managechange, the council has ment agreement to run seen its car park income the store car park as a drop by more than short term pay and dis-£470,000 in the past two play car park and provide years with a further drop all net of £360,000 anticipated council. in the current financial

in doned the other town centre car parks, where they have to pay, in order

It has also altered not sign it. ing trade away from the "Consi Market Street end of town, t town towards the Nolton uation Street end.

Significantly, report reveals that these problems had been foreseen before the council sold its short stay multi-

if Asda did not enter into an agreement with the Caroline Street and car park, there was Dunraven Place.
The indoor market in loss of revenue which the Rhiw Centre has also been hit.

report by Asda in October 2008 warned of a possible to bring in free parking adverse effect on traders because of reduced foot-

> In her report to cabinet the land deal and plan-ning permission, to enter all net income to the

"After lengthy negotiyear. ations and considerable
This is because many officer time and effort,
motorists have aban- the agreement was drawn

This is because many officer time and effort,
motorists have aban- the agreement was drawn

the agreement was drawn

by JAYNE ISAAC

However, Asda did

The report goes on: should "Considering Bridgend more of town, the car parking sitfundamentally changed in October 2008 when Asda made the 560-space car park free

park income which is being adversely affected by the situation, the whole issue of footfall and movement within the town has been changed significantlyreduced reduced pedestrian movement in the primary streets like Adare Street, Caroline Street and also the indoor market.
"The effect has been

so noticeable that repre-sentation has been made to the council by individ-ual traders and by the chamber of trade asking the council to take action in an attempt to counter this adverse effect on their businesses."

The report says that there are also traffic congestion problems, with cars attempting to enter the Asda car park queuing back along the new link road and and towards Tremains Road.

Actions proposed by the council to counter these problems include:

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is included for peace of mind

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storey car park by increasing the size of the spaces, following complaints that they are too and to investigate all the narrow. This will reduce other proposals put forcapacity by 70, but ward. should make the car park The attractive motorists. The issue of council staff using this

addressed. "The migration of cars from the council's car parks to Asda's has been a construction of the council's car parks to Asda's has been a construction of the council's car parks to Asda's has been a construction of the council of the c rine magniform the council's car parks to Asda's has been very much as detailed in the previous report.

"It is not only the car "the is not only the car" is not only the car" is not only the car.

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"It is not only the car" is not only the car.

"It is not only the car." is not only the car.

"It is not only the car." is not only the car.

The report claims that there are potential road safety issues.

It is worth remember-ing that the council created two coach parking bays along this stretch of road to accommodate shoppers from The Pines.

There seem to have

Turning the long stay car park at Tremains Road into a short stay one. This option will be explored along with plans to upgrade it.

Plans to upgrade it.

■ Bringing in differential charging with more attractive car parks charging more than others. ers. It may also be possible to charge less on low usage days or in after-

town centre car parks to assess their state of repair and then deciding if they can be used for other purposes or offered

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by maintain. The cabinet the has agreed to continue discussions with Asda

The GEM has tabled questions to the council about whether the Asda planning consent is valid car park will have to be if it was a condition of the consent that they

signed this agreement.

We have asked if enforcement action on planning grounds can be

taken against Asda.

We also asked why was council allowed the planning consent to be activated if Asda had not signed the agreement and why was the land deal finalised if the agreement unsigned?

its response to The GEM, GEM, a council spokesman said that the terms of the car park management agreement were included within the been no concerns about were included within the potential road safety land transaction contract issues at that time. and were legally binding on both parties.

Initially, Asda agreed to the commercial terms of the agreement, although it raised concerns soon after the store opened about the opened arrangements which allowed customers to claim an in-store refund on their car parking charges.

There were concerns that this was adversely affecting trade at the

The council began negotiations with Asda about the charging poli-cy and these talks were well advanced when Asda announced that in its view, the agreement was contrary to the Competition Act of

The statement goes on: "As a result, Asda ceased charging for car parking at the site, while continuing to meet its obligations in terms of public car park provision.
"The council has been

monitoring the situation to establish the full impact of this move. "Cabinet has agreed to

re-commence negotia-tions with Asda in order to reach a solution that is satisfactory to both par-

red letter day for the

Bridgend branch of the Royal British Legion which became jointly affiliated with Bridgend **Detachment Army** Cadet Force (ACF) Bridgend and Squadron Air Training Corps (ATC) at a special ceremony in

Bridgend ACF hut. The ACF certificate was accepted by Cadet Company Sergeant Major (CSM) Scott Davey (18) on behalf of his detach-

The affiliation certifiates were presented to both Cadet Forces by member

Cadet Sgt Major Scott Davev (Army Cadet Force) and Cadet Sgt Ashley Rhys (Air Training Corps).

Poppy Appeal over previ- organisations at ous years

RED LETTER DAY FOR THE LEGION

the RBL and ATC were selves and are looking introduced to the new ACF Cadet GP rifle by Cadet Sergeant Nathan Norman John, who con-gratulated all the Cadets themselves to the buffet!

on the amount of money There were 35 reprethey had raised for the sentatives from all three syears. event. Everyone thor-oughly enjoyed them-

Sgt Darija Mann, Bridgend Detachment, C Coy PRO

Store's bonus

VALENTINE'S Day event in a Maesteg store will benefit Ty Hafan.

Wilkinson team mem ers in the Maesteg store will be getting romantic in red and holding a Valentine's Day party this Saturday (February 13) to raise money for Ty Hafan, the family hospice for young lives, as part of Wilkinson's charity of the year partner-ship with Children's Hospices UK. Each of the retailer's

336 stores has been fundraising over the past year for one of the UK's 41 children's hospices.

"Once again, Wilkinson staff have come up with a great idea for raising funds for us this weekend," commented Frank Ady from Ty Hafan.

"We would also like to thank all its customers for entering into the spirit of these events and being so generous.

Read your GEM online at bridgendtoday.co.uk or porthcawltoday.co.uk

NEWS IN BRIEF

Samurai sword stolen in burglary

POLICE are investigating a burglary at a house on Mynydd Glas, Maesteg in the early hours of Tuesday, February 9.

Items taken from the property included a Nintendo Wii games console, an Avatar game and an ornamental Samurai sword.

Detective Constable Steve Gardner of Bridgend CID said: "We would like to hear from anyone who may have any information about this burglary. We are particularly keen to trace the whereabouts of the Samurai sword."

Contact Bridgend CID on 01656 679518, or nonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Maesteg man is robbed in street

are searching for two men after a 27- blue denim jeans year-old local man robbed on was Tuesday (February 9) at Hermon Road.

A spokesman said that the victim was walking through the tunnel near the Philco store when he was assaulted by two men. His Nokia mobile telephone and money One was described as

5ft 7ins-8ins tall, of medium build and weartrousers.

and slightly smaller in 555111.

POLICE in Maesteg height, and wearing a blue hooded top and light

> Detective Constable Steve Gardner Bridgend CID said: "This was an extremely harrowing incident for the victim and we will be doing everything we can to bring these two criminals to justice.

"If anyone knows either of the two suspects was stolen and the described or who has any attackers made off in the information regarding direction of Hermon this crime they should contact the police immediately."

Anyone with information is asked to contact ing a red 'Henleys' top tion is asked to contact and dark combat Bridgend CID on 01656 679518,

The other was thinner Crimestoppers on 0800

Horse Rugwash Company

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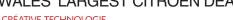
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LOCAL PUBS ARE TO BE MONITORED USING

system' to monitor public houses in the Bridgend area, is to be rolled out by the police.

and which were causing too much to drink. problems.

A NEW 'traffic light sanctions. Chief Supt have a good time."
system' to monitor Davies explained: "If a He emphasised chief Superintendent action will be taken.

licensing on tral division of South with professional super- Nations matches to supplying drugs was Wales Police, explained visors on doors, and a ensure that people don't likely to get caught. that the idea was to iden- determination not to overstep the mark. "We are winning the that the idea was to idendetermination not to overstep the mark.

tify which pubs were safe serve those who have had But Chief Supt Davies

but those identified as people should be able to partnership 'red light', would face meet in the town and Bridgend

Carl Davies, the new "We want to see taking special measures was leading to more succommander for the cen-responsible licensing on the days of Six cess and that anybody

o much to drink. was also keen to point ers have been taken out. "Bridgend town centre" out that while the issue of "If there are peopl with

as a last resort, if there

"I just hope that the

situation can be resolved

quickly because we have

had no post office for

are having to go to

about six weeks. People

Nantyffyllon or Maesteg," he explained. Traders in Caerau

Road said that the clo-

sure has affected their

businesses, with fewer

was nowhere else, it

could come to the

school.

Borough Council and

County criminality, we would ask them to give us that information by calling Crimestoppers 0800 555

Breast cancer

area and meets regular-

be in Cowbridge on Wednesday, February 17 from 2pm-4pm. A speciaist in post-surgery wear will be available for advice on swimwear, bras and prostheses.

01446 749756, or Anne on 01446 772843 for further information.

Caerau Post Office closure hits traders

THE closure of Caerau Post Office has hit residents and local businesses, although Post Office Ltd has said that talks were on-going to get a branch re-opened in the village.

The post office in Caerau Road closed suddenly before Christmas, but a spokesman insisted it was a temporary closure and they were committed to providing a service in the area.

They were in discus-

nity representatives and businesses to get an alternative venue

Coun Steve Smith. Mayor of Maesteg and a borough councillor, said it was a busy post office which the community needed.

There had been talk of moving it to Blaenllynfi School, which the Caerau Development Trust was taking over to provide community

"But I would prefer to keep it in Caerau Road near the other shops. We would all prefer that but,

He emphasised that voluntary organisations Davies explained: "If a licenced premises is the vast majority of peo'green', it is a case of well done' and encouraging people to frequent police would deal with the wind it is red then those that didn't.

He empnasised una volume, just the vast majority of peosuch as Bridgend's street pastors, clamping down on drug dealers was also a big priority.

He said that police

The police are also intelligence-gathering

battle and some big play-

"If there are people Those regarded as safe is a priority in terms of excessive drinking was a living a champagne and responsible would be reducing any anti-social problem that would be lifestyle, don't appear to designated 'green light', behaviour. All ages of addressed in long term have a job and the public the think there is a link to

support group THE Breast Cancer Support group LIFT (Life Is For Today) has members across the

The next meeting will

New members welcome. Contact Hilary on

Major redevelopments could see library moved

FROM PAGE 1)

After exploring numerous alternatives, the council's preferred option to integrate sporting and library facilities has been drawn up.

The main proposals within this include:

- Converting the bowls hall into a library.
- Retaining a four rink bowls area within the complex.
- Putting a mezzanine floor into the sports hall with a dance hall and gym.
- Demolishing the squash courts and Planet Play.
- Refurbishing the concert hall for current use or an alterna-
 - Putting in a new reception

area and entrance with a gallery linking it to the bowls hall build-

This scheme would improve the visual appearance of the building, increase the amount of fitness and gym facilities to meet demand and link the two build-

A strong alternative option has also been proposed, which would

also see the demolition of the squash courts and Planet Play.

Under this, the library would be located within the main building which would be processed to the square of the square which would be processed to the square which would be some which ing, which would mean retaining all eight bowls rinks.

The report says that while the preferred option would reduce the number of bowls rinks, membership and usage of the indoor bowls centre has fallen over recent years and the bowlers

could be accommodated in a smaller and more cost effective facility within the complex

The cost of the preferred option is about £6m, with the other option costing about £5m, but these figures need to be refined

The redevelopment has the otential to save £400,000 a year in running costs because of shared staff and buildings. The savings would then be reinvested into sports and leisure elsewhere in the borough.

The council has to consider how to raise the money needed and some of this could be gained by selling off the town library and Coed Parc. There could also be some limited borrowing to finance the project.







Barry Comprehensive School marks 50 years on Port Road 🦭 'Opportunity to Succeed!' 🅊



Local school's anniversary arrives as it celebrates its record GCSE results...





and the best is yet to come!

Mathews.

in the town.

succeeded Leslie

Mathews as head in

which the school leav-

SIVE PREHEN-SCHOOL has a history of being at the forefront of progressive education in Wales - and it is now celebrating 50 years on the Port

The story of secondary education in Barry goes back to October1886, when

Road.

ARRY COM- the Barry County School opened its doors to 110 boys and girls who had been granted scholarships on passing the elevenplus examination.

At that time, the school stood at the top of the Buttrills – and is now the Old College Inn.

By 1960, when the school opened at the present site at Port Road, more than 750 pupils were being edu-

1971, and supervised the period during Hire and Sales Ltd ing age was raised from 15-years-old to

> introduction of mixed ability teaching. 'Opportunity to succeed'

16, as well as the

Mr Courtney Rice, who became head in 1981, continued the modernisation of the school, with the introduction of new technology in the form of

cated under the head- VCRs and computers, ship of Mr Leslie and oversaw the transition from O-Levels In 1964, the time

Mr Mike Griffiths was ripe for the intro-duction of comprehenthen became head in sive education and this 1991 and steered the school through the was when Barry Boys changing educational Comprehensive School landscape of the 90s began, and a new era the advent of parental opened in the history choice, the growth in of secondary schooling Welsh medium educa-Mr Teifion Phillips tion and league tables.

These all signified that the school was now a competitor in the educational mar-

Mr David Swallow took up his headship in January 1998, hav-ing previously been head of Wellacre School in Trafford, Manchester.

The school dropped 'Boys' from its title to reflect the coeducational sixth form, and a new badge and an aspirational motto, Opportunity to Succeed', were intro-

It is very appropriate as the school enters its 50th year at the Port Road site, that it has recently achieved its best-ever GCSE results, with 81 per cent of pupils achieving five or more A* - C grades – the highest in the locality!

Many former pupils and staff have already expressed an interest in joining the current staff and pupils for the 50th anniversary celebration this summer.

If you would like to be involved, email the school at barrycs@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or find us on Friends Reunited.

RIGHT: Pupils launch balloons in support of National Anti-Bullying Week.







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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTORS

We have decided to undertake a major refurbishment of our Styleforce Ltd. store. For our customers' convenience, we will be introducing a coffee shop on our ground floor and moving our offices upstairs. We will also be updating many areas of our showrooms. In order to make room for the contractors, we will be clearing selected floor displays and excess stock before introducing new products from around the world. OUR STORE IS NOW CLOSED TO MARK DOWN PRICES on our entire stock of brand name sofas, chairs, dining tables, living room furniture, beds, bedroom furniture, gifts, accessories, pictures, mirrors and much more. During this limited sale period, we will also offer a special discount on all customer orders. NOTHING WILL BE HELD BACK and everything will be plainly marked on sale tags for immediate sale! We will open to the general public on Friday 12th February.

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Freeman and Damon are superb in Invictus

country's victory had; coupled with the excel-

a highly-compelling

performances from

the evergreen Clint

Morgan Freeman and

er directing success for

Eastwood, Invictus is a

It may lack a degree

it through to the

of bite, but the strength and power of the story

end. Recommended

attention throughout.

SK most women about sport and they'll say it's simply an excuse for men to go down the pub, get worked up over nothing, or to avoid the joy that is Saturday afternoon shopping.

However, ever so often, a sporting moment transcends its origins and is something spectacular and unforgettable. One such moment was South Africa's victory in the 1995 World Cup, winning the Webb Ellis Trophy mere months after Nelson Mandela's election as president began the arduous process of bringing a racially segregated country back together

again.
It is a story worthy of the cinema screen, and one that Clint Eastwood has brought to life in Invictus.

Morgan Freeman plays Mandela, whose desire to see his country repair itself after apartheid manifests itself in the hope that his country can achieve success in the 1995 rugby World Cup, held in South Africa.

Meeting with team captain Francois Pienaar (Matt Damon), Mandela instils in him the belief that victory can be more than just a panacea for the country's ills, and Pienaar attempts to ensure the team win the hearts and minds of a

In terms of perfect casting, there is nobody else who has the gravitas to portray Nelson Mandela on the big screen other than Morgan Freeman; yet it's one thing to say that he would be superb, but another for him to actually take the role.

It is a task, however, that Freeman is more than up to, and heads up a raft of impressive turns that makes Invictus a moving and highly absorbing piece of work.

Adapted from John Carlin's *Playing The Enemy*, it is a film that takes an even-handed look at the events that unfolded in the time period, while its snapshot nature gives the film pace that is unbur-dened by much in the

way of back story. Certainly, Mandela's life is one that would make an excellent film, but the story here is one that is pivotal to the rebirth of South Africa, as much about bringing a country together as it is about Mandela him-

The film does its best to portray Mandela as humanly as possible one character even says that he is "... not a saint, he is a man" – and

points out some of his failings as well as praising him, with Eastwood keen to keep the film nicely balanced, something that he is success-

ful at doing. The veteran director is maturing with age superbly, and this film maintains the hot streak he has been on in the last few years. Visually, the film

looks beautiful - the South African landscapes and townships shot with a real eye for detail. Eastwood subtly impresses upon the viewer the racial divide present in the country without ever being too blunt or hamfisted about it, although the tone does become a touch mawkish as the film makes its way to the conclusion

He also draws superb performances from his cast, led superbly by both Freeman and Matt Damon. The former captures the dignity and personality of Mandela, but gives substance to what could so easily have become imperson

With a sparkle in his eye, Freeman delivers a turn that is more than worthy of his Academy Award nomination and his measured nobility is a perfect fit for Mandela

Damon is given the shorter shrift as regards character, with Pienaar having little in the way of drive until the film shifts gears into the World Cup, but his performance is one of quiet conviction and determination, looking and sounding the part and delivering a degree of emotional heft, as and when the script calls for

While the film is more or less built around the two leads the supporting cast all fit in place superbly, and provide fine support for the main actors to wield their magic.

The film isn't a flaw-less piece of work by any stretch, with the story lacking any political edge, concentrating instead on the build-up to the tournament. While that isn't a bad thing, you can't help but feel a touch more politics would have given the film a little more depth and drama.

Similarly, the final third finds itself in the sports movie cliche of the underdog overachieving, and not even a director as masterful as Eastwood could wring much in the way hugely dull final between South Africa and New Zealand.

But ultimately the film succeeds in achieving what it sets out to do – to highlight the emergence of a reunited country and the impact both Mandela and the

SCREEN lent turns from Freeman **TALK** and Damon, Invictus is



by GARETH **JAMIESON**



Vale Resort named as UK's 'best family-friendly' hotel

has been named as the UK's best familv-friendly hotel, at a prestigious UK industry awards ceremony held in London.

The Vale Resort scooped the Hotel Excellence Awards 2010 award for the 'Best Large Family Friendly Hotel in the UK'. The four-star luxury

resort has put families high on the agenda and has established itself as a market leader in offering innovative, fun-filled family breaks that make the most of its expansive 650-acre parkland location.

One of Wales' "most successful leisure and hospitality businesses", the Vale Hotel, celebrated its 10th anniversary two months ago.

The £50million hotel resort opened its doors to its first hotel guests in November 1999.

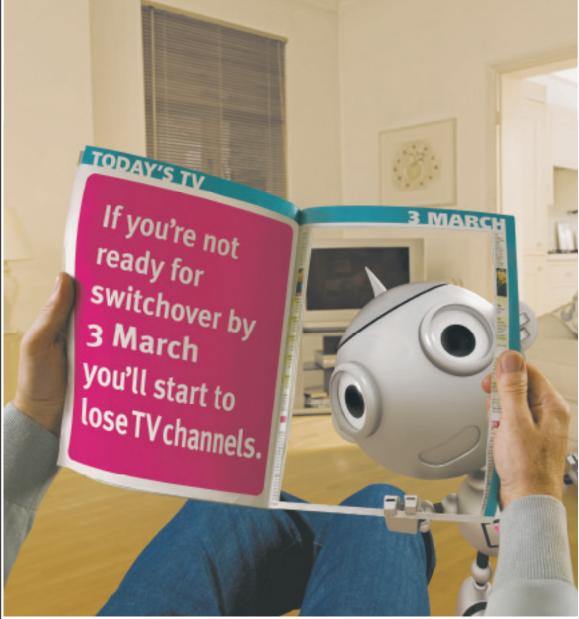
It has now played host to a staggering 750,000 hotel guests during its first decade in business.

Ben Danielsen, gen-eral manager of the Vale Resort, commented: "We are delighted to



have achieved this independent benchmark from the industry in recognition of the genuine focus and priority we place on family friendly holidays and short breaks.

Left to right: Travel industry expert and TV travel pundit Simon Calder with Stephanie Metson, marketing manager, Vale Resort, and Emma Pegler, childcare manager.



On 3 March any TV that is not ready to receive a digital signal will start losing channels at switchover - BBC Two will be the first to go. Then on 31 March the remaining analogue channels will be switched off and the rest of the digital services launched.

Questions? Call o8456 50 50 (English language) or 08458 48 48 (Welsh language) or visit digitaluk.co.uk



New police commander for Vale and **Bridgend**



Chief Supt Carl Davies.

A NEW Commander, emergency Carl number.
been As the Chief Supt Davies, has appointed at the Commander, he is sup-Central division of James in the Vale of South Wales Police, Glamorgan which covers Supt Stev Bridgend and the Bridgend. Vale.

A native of Aberdare, sionate about policing Mr Davies began his 30- and confident that we can year career on the beat in continue to make our his home town, and he communities even safer has worked in every division of the South Wales visit.

force.
Mr Davies was deputy divisional Commander would encourage them to for Cardiff in 2007 and contact their local officer. 2008, before becoming "We are here to keep head of call and incident the people and neighmanagement. included police commu- and the Vale safe, and we nications across the will aim to do that by entire force region, as dealing robustly with well as playing a leading criminals and supporting Liverpool. It was found-role in the Wales-wide our communities," he ed by Ethel Austin and roll out of the '101' non- promised.

telephone

Divisional Glamorgan area, and Supt Steve Furnham in

He said: "I am pasplaces to live, work and

"If people have an sue in their area, I issue

which bourhoods of Bridgend

Council's pledge to keep children safer on line

County Borough
Council (BCBC)
marked EU Safer
Internet Day on
Tuesday by pledging to make the borough "one of the safest places for children to go online in Wales".

Council spokeswoman

Tuesday by pledging to make the borough "one of the safest places for children to go online in Wales".

Council spokeswoman

County Borough "The authority is working to make the Child Exploitation and Online Protection and Online South Wales Police to online safety is seen as integral as learning to cross the road.

EU Safer Internet Day online behaviour."

Research by Ofcom Research by Ofcom stowed that 78 per cent of five to seven-year-olds are now using the inter-off internet and with a carried and online safety is seen as integral as learning to cross the road.

EU Safer Internet Day on online with the purple of the child Exploitation and Online Protection an G E N D Michelle Bower, stated: online behaviour.

internet and what they can do to stay safe. Many children report-ed that they are regularly accessing the internet, but that can mean children risk giving out their personal details to strangers and there is also an increasing risk of young people being exposed to cyberbully-

exposed to cyberbully-ing.
Presentations in Bridgend's schools are aimed at helping young-sters understand issues such as cyberbullying and talking to strangers on the internet.
Coun Alana Davies, cabinet member for chil-

cabinet member for children and young people, said: "BCBC recognises that cyberspace can be a dangerous place for voungsters.

"Sadly, there are peo-ple out there who are using advances in tech-

using advances in tech-nology to target young people inappropriately. "It is up to teachers and parents to arm chil-dren with the knowledge of how to stay safe, be aware and know who to turn to if they want to report a problem.

Hooking Ilfracombe up with Porthcawl

CLOSER between the seaside Swansea to Ilfracombe resorts of Porthcawl ferry was due to start

links lors that the and Ilfracombe are on the cards.

Coun Sean Aspey told Porthcawl town council-

Onion Johnny

moves out of

the bicycle age!

could boost tourism for

Coun Aspev said he had arranged to meet Ilfracombe Town Council on March 8 to start the process of creating a good working rela-

tionship.
Porthcawl Council has Portheawl Council has asked him to give further information about the programme and agenda for that visit before he goes. Other councillors may accompany him. Coun David Deere,

Coun David Deere, Conservative leader of the council, said that he welcomed the visit: "I fully support Sean Aspey's initiative, which I hope will lead to mutu-al benefits for both

I nop-al benefits Porthcawl Ilfracombe," he said. "I believe that there is "wial for residents of travel to potential for residents of Ilfracombe to travel to Porthcawl to play golf and stay in our hotels and obviously, people from south Wales may well wish to go there.

"This new ferry could be the catalyst for a healthy cross channel link between our two areas

The new ferry will ive a fast service across the channel with fares costing £22 each way. Initially, it will be for passengers only but Severn Link, which is the company running the service, is to investigate the possibility of taking cars across as well.

Two local shops are under threat

TWO shops in the county borough are under threat.

A question mark hangs over the future of the Ethel Austin stores in Bridgend and Maesteg since administrators were called into the national

chain on Monday. In all, the company has 300 stores and employs 2,500 people.

Administrators have put the business up for sale and all shops will continue trading in the meantime.

It may be a month before any decisions are taken about store closures or redundancies.

Administrators say that there have been expressions of interest in buying the company, which is based in her husband George in

It is understood that the bad weather in January severely affected the company's cash flow as shoppers stayed at home because of snow and ice.

· A second Maesteg store may be under threat. The Richley Stewart store, which is located in the former Woolworth's premises, has been closed for the past two weeks.

The shop, which sells clothing and household goods, opened less than a year ago, following the collapse of Woolworth

last January.

Attempts by The GEM to contact the company, which has a number of other stores, have failed. The only phone number listed for them at their HQ in Ellesmere Port went unanswered.

Maxime Joigneaux, 'Onion Johnny extraordinaire from Roscoff in Brittany. (Photographed by Keith E Morgan).

ONION Johnny ('Sioni Onions' man) is

the nickname given to Bretons who have come to Wales to sell door-to-door their distinctive pink onions since 1828.

Traditionally, they were dressed in striped shirt and beret, riding a bicycle hung with strings of

Today, Maxime Joigneaux still comes from Roscoff to sell onions. He sports the traditional black beret, but wears a Welsh-Cymru jacket and drives a van full of strings of onions

Incidentally, Maxime confirmed that he can converse in Bretagne with a Welshman speaking Welsh!

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NEWS IN AND OUT OF CLASS AT LITCHARD JUNIOR SCHOOL

A busy time ahead for both school and pupils

CAPTAINS

forthcoming Eisteddfod, the captains of the Houses have

Webster; vice-captains – Sections this year:
Jessica Burton, Jack English reading and writ-

Tiley. days this year from the retirement after PURPLE HOUSE – afternoon of Thursday, captains – Meghanne March 5 to the morning Litchard Jun Davies, Jack Anstie; of March 6. vice-captains – Sophie Owens, Sam Weale.

tains of the Houses have been elected by the pupils.
They are as follows:
RED HOUSE – captains – Jed Stillman, Megan Webster: vice-captains – Sections this way.

Mullens. ing, hand writing
ORANGE HOUSE – English and Welsh recita-

The school eisteddfod Thomas; vice-captains – The school eisteddfod Cellan Hall, Josie Ellen will take place over two

Dog fouling

patrols stepped

up at parks

PCSO Richard Hopkins and BCBC

Enforcement Officer Marshall Greer on patrol in Pandy Park.

PATROLS are including damage to the being stepped up at eye. The life cycle is not

Ynysawdre by completed in people and neighbourhood never results in worms.

police to tackle dog disease by ingesting, or

local parks and faeces. Freshly deposited faeces pose no threat as

PCSO Richard the eggs only become Hopkins has been working closely with borough three weeks. If the mess

fouling problems at

council enforcement offi-

cer Marshall Greer to highlight the impact dog

fouling has on the com-

by the roundworm toxo-

"There can be little

"You can only get the

swallowing eggs from

is cleared immediately,

"Children, especially

there is no danger.

Please could all children dress with a Welsh theme in mind or in the vellow, purple).

THE St David's Day lunch will be served on writing, Thursday, March 5.

The menu will be ORANGE HOUSE – English and Welsh recitation, art, singing, musical catangui, Megan Jeffery; instrumentalists and folk vice-captains – Oat Jenner, Lucy Richards.

YELLOW HOUSE – English and Welsh recitation, art, singing, musical based on traditional food. Welsh food: Mrs Edmunds will be serving lamb, shepherd's pie, shepherd's pie, fresh vegetables, Welsh captains – Shaun competitions before the cakes and fresh fruit.

The well also be fresh vegetables, Welsh cakes and fresh fruit.

COFFEE will continue on the menu will be trons continued on the continued on th

MORNING

provided by the children and a collection will be taken for this worthwhile gates at 5.30am. A

THEATRE VISIT

THE children were entertained by the Pandemonium Theatre, who performed MEMORIAL
Victorian Values, a production all about who sent in a donation duction all Victorian children.

taining show and we learned about how badly Statham's memorial some children were treat- fund. ed in Victorian Times.

"My favourite part was when Jack went up POLICE NEWS was when Jack well up the chimney and got LOCAL PCSO Heather stuck – that was really funny!" commented Beth Reactle (SS).

RETIREMENT!

Lloyd-Hughes on her 2.30pm-4pm.

Mrs Lloyd-Hughes came into school on the colour of the house they January 29 (which was represent (red, orange, also her birthday) where she was presented with a beautiful bouquet of flowers.

> Retirement celebrations continued on the

into school on a regular TO celebrate Comic basis to play the piano Relief Day, a coffee when the children have morning will be held at the Junior School on

friday, March 13, at 9.15am.

The theme is 'Wear going on a trip to Separation of the state of t Something Red'. France on Monday, February 23.

Meet at the school packed lunch is needed for the trip.

DON'T FORGET

"It was a really enter-

COMMUNITY

Keagle (5S).

H A P P Y advice, crime reporting, public reassurance in a RETIREMENT:
THE staff and pupils
would like to send their
best wishes to Mrs March 3 and
best wishes to Mrs March 31 between

from the carnival fund



Cadets get a big boost

Kerry Marlow of the Buckaneers, who organise Porthcawl Carnival, is pictured presenting Flying Officer Matthew Hayes with a cheque for £500. Also in the picture is Susan Daniel (civilian secretary) and cadets of 2347 Squadron Porthcawl.

The money was donated for all the hard work put in by the cadets at last year's carnival.

Britain's leading deaf charity

RNID has thanked shoppers at the Coop for a record £3.5 million donation.

The Pyle branch was one of the biggest fundraising stores for its size, contributing an impressive £7,730 towards the multi-million pound total, raised in only 11 months.

Richard Williams from RNID, the deafness and hearing loss charity, presented a giant £3.5 million till receipt to the Pyle store to mark the achievement.

Cancer Research

THE Cancer Research UK's Porthcawl committee will hold a fish and chips lunch at the Hi Tide Inn at 11.30am on March 20. Tickets £7: stalls and

Bumper cheque handed over

£8.5 MILLION 110,000 MERRING CHECKS 20,000

> RNID . RNID representative Richard Williams (left) presents staff at The Co-operative in Pyle with a giant £3.5million till receipt to thank them for their fundraising efforts.

PEOPLE WILL BENEFTT

GEM Quiz League weekly round-up

toddlers, crawl on grass ON February 1, two sion match, Oldcastle 'A' in gardens and parks. doubt that fouling of They may pick up the pavements and public places by dogs is something which – quite right y – annoys the large majority of the public. If offenders could be taught to change their ways, the case against the dog would largely disappear.

"Of course, it is not even less would be the manual proper measures such as cleaning up after dogs in these areas and to change their ways, the seping children's sand-pits covered when not in would largely disappear. They may pick up the teams revenge week. After their narrow

After their narrow as the joint leaders defeat by Llangeinor AFC in the Cup, Maesteg Catholic Club turned the tables on them with a State Cabo Roche beat a "Of course, it is not even less.

just the fouling itself, but "It is important that may be passed to the humans, particularly children, that worries people most," he said.

Toxocariasis is completed by the said that the said to wash their hands regularly after playing with the said. tables on them with a 52-43 win at Llangeinor. Royal Oak Royals to kee were unable to repeat 42-38

"If anyone Ynvsawdre has a concern Ynysawdre has a concern cara canis, present in dogs. Humans can become infected by swallowing toxocara eggs they can contact me

gained won 42-35 away to test you:

Prince of Wales 'A'. 1 The

revenge on the teams that had put them out of the Cup and Plate competitions the previous

The Giant's Causeway lies on the coastline of which country in Northern Ireland?

Which actor, who settle for a 49-all draw with Oldcastle 'B', have with Oldcastle 'B', have the coastline of which country in Northern Ireland?

Which actor, who later played a famous with Oldcastle 'B', have with Oldcastle 'B', have the coastline of which country in Northern Ireland? with Oldcastle 'B', have first place to themselves

slightly weakened Pyle RFC team, who did well to keep Cabo Roche to

their Plate victory at PLlynfi Arms, as the home ter Pyle's average is better than some other teams, but they just can-not get away from the team beat them by 49-44.
Tondu Railway Club
did well to upset bottom.
Mackworth Arms' recent There

lowing toxocara eggs which are found in dog facees.

"After hatching, the larvae wander through the human body causing a variety of symptoms"

hey can contact me through the Courboby.com website or just stop me when they larvae wander through the human body causing a variety of symptoms a stemant of the contact me through the properties of the contact me through the properties of the contact me through the properties of the contact me through them by 50-44, and two games, Laleston Inn Royal Oak Nomads were given a stern test by Arms 42-39 and Laleston Inn 'A' but held on to win 50-45.

Hopkins added.

Mackworth Arms' recent good form by beating two games, Laleston Inn Brown (B' B' beat Oddfellows are in the remaining two games, Laleston Inn 'Brown (B' B' beat Oddfellows are in the remaining two games, Laleston Inn 'Brown (B' B' beat Oddfellows are in the remaining two games, Laleston Inn 'Brown (B' B' beat Oddfellows are in the remaining two games, Laleston Inn 'Brown (B' B' beat Oddfellows are in the remaining two games, Laleston Inn 'Brown (B' B' beat Oddfellows are in the remaining two games, Laleston Inn 'Brown (B' B' beat Oddfellows are in the remaining two games, Laleston Inn 'Brown (B' B' beat Oddfellows are in the remaining two games, Laleston Inn 'Brown (B' B' beat Oddfellows are in the remaining two games, Laleston Inn 'Brown (B' B' beat Oddfellows are in the remaining two games, Laleston Inn 'Brown (B' B' beat Oddfellows are in the remaining two games, Laleston Inn 'Brown (B' B' beat Oddfellows are in the remaining two games, Laleston Inn 'Brown (B' B' beat Oddfellows are in the remaining two games, Laleston Inn 'Brown (B' B' beat Oddfellows are in the remaining two games, Laleston Inn 'Brown (B' B' beat Oddfellows are in the remaining two games, Laleston Inn 'Brown (B' B' beat Oddfellows are in the remaining two games, Laleston Inn 'Brown (B' B' beat Oddfellows are in the remaining two games, Laleston Inn 'Brown (B' B' beat Oddfellows are in the remaining two games, Laleston Inn 'Brown (B' B' beat O

policeman on television, was nominated for an role as a prisoner in the film Birdman Alcatraz?

3 Which former Welsh Rugby international is the current head coach of Sale Sharks?

Which Puccini opera features the characters Ping, Pang and A RUDGE (Hon sec BGQL)

3 Kingsley Jones. 2 Telly Savalas. .mritah 1 **VNSMEKS**

Bridgend drivers 'clued up' on new registrations

ing issues by correctly identifying the year code that new cars from March 2010.

In a survey conducted by Sinclair Volkswagen, nine out of ten people knew that this spring's registration will be '10' – showing they keep up to date with important driv-

ing information. However, the survey did reveal slightly more confusion about the date code for cars registered from September, with only 70 per cent correctly identifying '60', 20 per cent expecting it to revert to '50' and one in ten believing it would be

In less than two months, the UK will soon be seeing registration plates such as AP10 GLF in March, while AP60 GLF will start appearing from September 1

In 2011, it will be 11 and 61 and so on.

Volkswagen Bridgend brand manager, Craig Godfrey said: "The very

CLUED-UP drivers first 10-plated cars will this March, we know that hit the road this March – motorists still consider a

"There have been so car." many changes in the motor industry, and the complete with 2010 regworld, since we adopted will be displayed on the current licence plate system in 2001, so it is good to see that the interest and enthusiasm surrounding the change in cars. registration number is as high this year as ever.

ing changing vehicles Bridgend.

ed they are well informed on motor
motorists still consider a motorists still consider a plate change as an important time to unprade their time to unprade their

istration plates - is available to order from Bridgend along with the full range of Volkswagen

Sinclair Volkswagen is a family-run business "What's more, with with sites in Cardiff, around one in five people Swansea, Newport, Port saying they are consider- Talbot, Neylands and

Vale man arrested after indecent images are found

Mr JEREMY COLMAN, until recently the Auditor General for Wales, has been arrested on suspicion of possessing indecent images.

The Wales Audit Office said last week that Mr Colman, of Dinas Powys, had stood down "following an internal review around matters of personal conduct", and that the office was cooperating with the police.

A police spokesman said: "A 61-year-old man from the Vale of Glamorgan has been arrested on suspicion of possessing indecent images.

"He has been bailed until March 3, pending further enquiries."





ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE 21st year of

Just Learning nursery receives 'glowing report'

Learning nursery in Bridgend has received a glowing report from The Care and Social Services

Inspectorate Wales. The report is designed to reassure parents and

carers that the nursery education and care their children receive is of acceptable quality, and that any weaknesses are swiftly addressed.

The report noted that the 'children were seen to be well settled and happy' and staff interaction with children was good.'

Jonathan Bell, manag-

receive independent verification and acknowledgement of the quality of care and education and professionalism of our staff is excellent recognition for the nurs-Just Learning is one

of the UK's leading nursery operators. Founded in 1996, the company now operates 74 nurseries in Wales and England, offering high quality care for babies toddlers and preschool children in a structured nursery environment.

Please contact Melanie Thomas, nursery manager, Just Learning Bridgend on 01656 649644.

Scallywags... is looking forward to another exciting season. An explosion of colour is due to arrive in store and

> thing for everyone! We are always on the lookout for something different for our cus-

there really is some-

The 2009 additional ranges included the award-winning Bonnie Baby, the perfect newborn gift, and the

CALLYWAGS Nonsense, a lovely, easy to wear collection for girls aged six-14 years, produced by Sandwich.

Our ever-popular col-lections from Catimini, Oilily, Kenzo, Timberland and Jean Bourget and the fantastic spring Lelli Kelly collection will be with us very shortly.

We're just by the Town Hall car park bridge.

There is so much more to discover at Scallywags. Yanna and Ceri look forward to



'A Magic Place...

established familyrun business. We cater for children from ages one to 10 years, with plenty of soft play, rope bridges, slides, tunnels, walkways and much more!

We specialise in children's birthday parties and offer various packages to suit your needs: hot or cold food, balloons, party bags, drinks, ice cream – all served in your party room.

Enjoy our popular laser parties - and now everyone can be a star at Merlin's - with its own stage, cameras and big screens to sing along to favourite songs.

We welcome various

organisations, schools, nurseries, mother and oddler groups, Rainbows, etc.

Good hot and cold food is served in our café, so come and play rain or shine.

Call soon: Unit 17, Ely Valley Business Park, Station Terrace, Pontyclun, CF72 9DZ; or please telephone 01443 228111.

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(ages 1-10)

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Solve children contact issues

OLIDAY time is upon us again. This can often lead to arguments between parents about contact arrangements.

In an ideal world children should be able to enjoy quality time with each of their parwith each of their par-ents, but if this is prov-ing impossible in your case, then you should seek the help of a family lawyer, preferably a member of Resolution.

This group of family lawyers are specially trained to try and reach an amicable agreement on your behalf and can assist you in giving advice, information and support in trying to reach arrangements with your ex-partner. Where this is not pos-

sible, they will then assist with processing the matter through the

courts.

Don't miss out on your children! Katie McColgan, Partner, Berry Smith, telephone 01656 645525; email kmmcol-gan@berrysmith.com

HAVING PROBLEMS OVER CONTACT WITH YOUR CHILDREN?

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THE LEGAL SOLUTION



Then speak with Katie McColgan, Marina Atherton, or Stephanie Murray of Berry Smith LLP, Brackla House, Brackla Street, Bridgend CF31 1BZ.

Tel 01656 645 525

Public Funding (Legal Aid) available

Lots of 'wobstacle' fun at Fontygary Leisure

ONTYGARY Leisure's new inflatable 'shiver me timbers' wobstacle will be up in the pool from 11am-1pm on Monday, Wednesday and Sunday during the half-term period, at a cost of only £3 per swim (free for three years and under).

This is proving to be very popular with the children and parents alike!We will be fully

life-guarded Monday-Friday between the hours of 11am-6pm, and on the weekend between 9am-5pm. Children must be eight and over, and be able to swim at least two lengths of the pool to be unaccompanied.
Why not have a quick

snack in our café, Litebites, after your swim?

We are also now enrolling for our next set of swimming lessons so don't delay as places fill up very quickly!

Also calling all students! Our healthclub is

offering monthly memberships at only £25 (payable at reception or by direct debit) with no contract to sign! This entitles you to the full gold membership! Remember, this

includes use of the pool, free weights room, cardio-theatre room, sunbed, sauna, steam room and jacuzzi. Come along and have a look you will be pleasantly surprised!

For further details, telephone Jennie or reception on 01446 710386.





Enjoy a sporty half-term at the Vale's leisure centres

NORKELLING, tag rugby, water polo and football are among more than 20 sports and activities that can be enjoyed during half-term at the Vale's leisure centres in Barry, Cowbridge, Llantwit Major and Penarth.

Many of the activities cost as little as £1.If you are not sure which to

choose, then why not go for five activities in one day at one of the 5x60 activity days being held at Llantwit Major Leisure Centre?

For only £5, 11-16 year-olds can get their five-a-day by having a go at badminton, dodgeball, table tennis, fishes cold not fitted.

frisbee golf and futsal.

For full details, pick up a programme from your local leisure centre or go online at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/leisurecentres.



More than 20 different sports and activities are on offer for youngsters this Half Term at the Leisure Centres in Barry, Cowbridge, Llantwit Major and Penarth.

Many cost as little as £1. For details, please pick up a programme from your nearest Leisure Centre or go online at...

ww.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/leisurecentres









Ruckleys is the one-stop shop for all mothers



HR Cycles cycle support and expert help

98, Holton Road Barry of 63 thj

Tel: 01446 700006

established in 1991 by Haydn Rees, is still racing along with Haydn at the top of his form.

He is backed up by Stuart Thom as service stuart friom as service and spares manager (14 years with the shop), Tom David, mechanic and general sales, and the Sunday man Jolly Jack Robinson.

The shop specialises in giving friendly, expert service and advice, and quality repair work of all types, including wheel building and hydraulic brake systems at reasonable rates.

Both Stuart who is old enough to know better, and Tom are also skilled BMX riders and can give knowledgeable advice on the best type of BMX bike to buy and how to ride it.

Visit us at Five Bells Road, Bridgend, or call 01656 766006 for more information.

is getting ready for the arrival of their new spring/summer range, take advantage of their massive sale. All clothing is

Ruckleys

reduced by 50 per cent or more and now includes a three for two deal. All Lelli Kelly shoes and boots are now reduced and start from as little as £26.99.

Spaciously set over two floors, Ruckleys is offering all GEM readers 10 per cent off any Nursery Savings Club account opened between February 11-

Call in and browse the basement showroom with prams, pushchairs, Moses baskets, cots and nursery equipment.

If you are an expectant mum, why not open an interest-free loan to help pay for your little one's arrival?

Don't forget their fabulous St David's Day costumes for both boys and girls.

Open seven days a week, Ruckleys is truly the one-stop shop for mothers and mothers-

'Little Kickers' football fun for under-7s

fessional footballer Damon Searle and his wife Andrea opened 'Little Kickers' two years ago and currently run 13 classes per week in the south Wales area.

Former Cardiff City player Kirk Huggins came aboard 18 months

ago as lead coach and a valued member of the team, helping to expand

Little Kickers is football tailored for preschool boys and girls aged between two and seven-year-olds, incorporating simple concepts like colours, numbers, basic agility and co-ordination At Little Kickers the focus is very much

on fun while learning valuable social skills like listening, sharing, taking turns and teamwork.

We are pleased to announce that Mega Kickers, for those aged opened in Barry, more classes to follow shortly.

Goa! LittleKicker ***** The UK's most popular pre-school football classes Approved football training for kids aged 2 to 7 years old Call 01446 746153

d&asearle@littlekickers.co.uk www.littlekickers.co.uk

'We have lots of lovely fluffy feline friends

Animal Welfare Society needs your help to rehome cats.

In 1985, three people in Maesteg wanted to improve animal welfare and so Maesteg Animal Welfare Society
(MAWS) was born.
MAWS is a small

charity run entirely by volunteers – most funds are generated from our charity shop in 4 Church Street, Maesteg. Please come to see us if you are in the area (opposite the

abundance of cats who are urgently in need of a new family or individual to care for them. We rehome many cats and dogs throughout the val-leys, Bridgend and the Vale, and we are desper-

ate for new homes.

Please contact 01656
721496 or 01656 653456 if you can offer

a home.
Any donations, bric-abrac or any unwanted items, please call our shop 01656 738977 or 01656 721496.

MAESTEG ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY

Kittens, young and older cats –

All needing a new family! been no

All cats have en neutered and Tel: (01656) 721496

All our work is funded by Charity Shops. We sell brica-brac books, clothes and all items of furniture and we can collect Tel: 01656 737827 or 01656 653456 www.maesteganimalrescue.co.uk

Anybody who wants clothes collecting, please contact the above telephone numbers

'Splash Cymru' says 'let us entertain you'

Glamorgan Youth Offending Service (YOS) is running holiday activities for young people in the Castleland and Gibbonsdown areas of Barry throughout all school holiday periods.

Funded for by the Youth Justice Board (YJB), the activity known as 'Splash Cymru' is a programme of events for 13 to 17year-olds that run in the school holidays in Wales. It was launched in 2002 following the success of the Splash and Splash Extra programmes in England. The Splash Cymru

schemes are being targeted in the Communities First areas of Barry. The YOS Prevention Service over the past year has been successful in reducing the number of young people entering the crim-

inal justice system. Splash Cymru Schemes are designed and funded to complement this work and is designed to promote the work of the YOS and image of young people in the community.

By engaging young people in positive activities in the community during non structured time, young people are given the chance to engage in opportunities that they would not necessarily be able to have

the chance to experi-

Future Splash activities will include Tall Ships experiences, outdoor pursuits, residential weekends and targeted programmes designed to engage young people with specific risk issues



A healthier and greener 2010 arrives in a box

IVERFORD provides organic food that is healthier and affordable, straight from the farm, and delivered free to vour home or workplace. How often do we

audit our ethics, measure our carbon footprint and assess our social responsibility?

The underlying 'survival of the fittest' premise has not changed – ethics remains a means to an end. Only the most informed consumer could tell the difference between ethics and the appearance of ethics, and most of us are too

busy to research! The confusion is ruthlessly spun to support brands, particularly with

fruit and veg boxes con-

the supermarkets.

Our Riverford meat,

tain all organic products up to 40 per cent cheaper than supermarket organics because we come directly to you from the farm. We do not use pesticides.

Our products are certified to soil association organic standards.

Scientists at Newcastle University, as part of an EU-funded quality low input food project, found that organic vegetables and Riverford organic ves

The roots+greens box is back 40% cheaper than supermarkets organic vegboxes to suit all households from just £8,95 or make up your own box from our range of veg, fruit, milk, eggs and much more (minimum order £12.50).

ve also deliver meatboxes from £25

or visit www.riverford.co.uk

call us on 0845 600 2311

fruit contain up to 40 per cent more anti-oxidants than non-organic prod-ucts. Organic milk contains more than 50 per cent anti-oxidants and healthy fatty acids. The flavour of the food is natural, tastes better and is better for us. All this, plus free

delivery! For enquiries, please telephone 0845 600 2311 or go to www.riverford.co.uk

Kindermusik is a complete learning experience

OME for a free Kindermusik class and discover why 1.5 million children worldwide are having fun making music part of their day.

Kindermusik is the single best choice for children, newborn to age seven. Researched and designed to create a rich. holistic learning experience for young children, the Kindermusik class environment employs the best of developmentally appropriate practice as identified by the National Association for the Education of Young children (NAEYC).

Developmentally appropriate practice

Content is integrat-

ed in activities that touch children. every aspect of chil-dren's development across learning domains (social, emotional, physical, cognitive, musical,

 Content is presented through thematic connections that 'speak' to

language).

Content meets each

individual child's unique needs within his own cultural environment. Contact Leonie on 01446 775048, or

www.kindermusikwithleonie.co.uk







dren's Choices



Huge range of products at Bumps 'n' Babies



F you are having a baby, then call in and see

Here at Bumps 'n Babies, we have a huge range of nursery goods on display from all the leading brands – such as Quinny, Bugaboo, iCandy, Babystyle, Maxi-Cosi and many more.

We will beat any price, although we usually don't need to, because we already have the best prices!

With plenty of parking outside the door, and less than five minutes from the M4 junction 36 (Bridgend Designer Outlet, formerly McArthur Glen) there is no reason not

Please call soon. Telephone 01656 725

Homework club for 11 -16 year olds launched at Barry school

BARRY Island Island Primary School, Primary School has Janet Hayward, and the deputy head, Ty Golding, launched a new after-school home-work club for pupils Island. after-school homeaged 11-16, in partnership with the for four nights a week
Vale of Glamorgan (Monday-Thursday) Community Focused Schools (CFS), the Vale Youth Service, Barry and Bryn Hafren comprehen-

sive schools.

The project is being funded until March 31, and a room has been kitted out with state of the art Apple Mac laptops, as well as comfortable and

modern furniture.
A spokeswoman said:
"Barry Island Primary School aims to serve the local community in as many ways as possible. The headteacher at Barry

from 3.30pm – 6pm, and will be staffed at all times

The launch saw pupils The launch saw pupils attending from several Vale schools, including Barry Island Primary School, Bryn Hafren, Barry Comprehensive School, St Richard Gwyn, St Cyres and one member has signed up from Yeng Mage Dufan

from Ysgol Maes Dyfan.
Local comprehensive
school headteachers Phil Whitcombe and Dave Swallow, were invited to the launch and enjoyed looking around, talking to pupils and to other partners.



At the launch of the homework club - back left: Dave Swallow, Janet Hayward and Phil Whitcombe. Front: Pupils from Barry and Bryn Hafren comprehensive schools.

Pendoylan School has an exciting future

T is a very excit- discussions. ing time for .Pendoylan School as we embark upon our new school build.

Building work is scheduled to commence around May/June and will comprise new class-room buildings and a new school hall.

Governors, staff and pupils are eagerly awaiting their new school. and have begun a history project - creating a chool timeline from 1873 to 2010.

The children have been involved in research, interviews and

storey store in

Regent Street, just

pets.

Much input has been given by the community in supplying a wealth of photographs and information, for which we are of the new school.

The fundraising committee in the school is busy planning a Summer Ball to launch the start



It's all happenening at Pendoylan . . . Children's VALENTINE'S DISCO

Friday, 12th February

Parents, Friends and Children TREASURE HUNT Saturday 20th February

BAVARIAN NIGHT Saturday, 26th February

Pendoylan Church in Wales Primary School Pendoylan, Vale of Glamorgan

Music for Little Fingers T JPL Sound of a pack, with amplifi-

- The Barry Music Shop there is a huge selection of instruments sized especially for children.

For those who love SpongeBob, the shop stocks a variety of instruments with SpongeBob on them including junior drum kits, half-size classical guitars, ukuleles and even 'Flying V' ukulele's and drum sticks.

Electric guitars are always popular and there are special offers on at the moment for half-size electric guitars pink for the girls and black for the boys! They er, strap, lead and spare strings as well!

There is always a large variety of instruments such as recorders. percussion - tambourines, castanets, jingle sticks etc, as well as sories.

the more formal instruments, such as flute. clarinet and saxophone.

Call in any time to see our huge range of instruments and acces-



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www.talbotpets.co.uk www.talbotreptiles.co.uk IN STOCK NOW - Wide selection of Tortoise, Reptiles, Spiders,

Small Animals, Birds. (We only sell captive bred reptiles)

MASSIVE SELECTION - Pet Food and Treats, Bird and Wild Bird Food and Treats, Live Food, Accessories, Vivariums, Bird Cages, Hutches and Small Animal Homes, Toys, Training Aids, Dog and Cat Beds – **Plus Gift Vouchers**

TREATMENTS & MEDICANTS

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Qualified Pet Nutritionists In Store

to help and advise you Members of



The Stardust Amusement Centre 'rejuvenates' **Barry Island!**

N the back of the success of Gavin & Stacey, Barry Island's rejuvenation continues, with Stardust

Amusement Centre now providing 10 Pin Bowling and improved entertainments for all the family, at cheap prices.

With free parking (immediately to the right of the building) it could not be easier to have a fun family day out.

There is a special offer with The GEM for an introductory session of bowling for £1 per person for an hour with our advert, Make sure you cut it out and take it with you!

For a fabulous fun time, come along to Stardust Amusement Centre, Barry Island. We look forward to

seeing you! Telephone 01446 722769.

of great products to offer DETS R US is a your pet's problems.
All the staff are pet

Pets R Us has hundreds

owners, too!

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For the friendliest,

knowledgeable staff you could wish for, call in to Pets R Us, or telephone



beds on the upper floor.

Also available are full set-ups for your pets and

all pet accessories.
Pets R Us are stockists of premium dog and cat food, with many great offers at competitive prices.

The in-store dog grooming and care service has proved very pop-

Now is the time to get your dog looking its best

with a shampoo and clip. The store also has an in-store qualified veterinary nurse, who can advise and help you with



Large selection of NEW DOG BEDS now in

Visit our stall every week at Barry Tuesday Market la REGENT STREET BARRY, CF62 8DS. 01446 722 228



of Bowling for L per person for a whole hour.

Valid until 31st March, 2010. Group bookings are welcome for any occasion.

For further information. please contact the team on 01446 722769 STARDUST - White's Cosy Corner, Paget Road, Barry Island, CF62 5TY

Out and About with The GE

Celebrating the Chinese New Year at Art Central

activities are set to est to all. take place at Art Central, the Vale Council's exhibition limited to a maximum of processing (10 for the first). space, as part of cel**space, as part of cel-** 20 per session (10 for the **ebrations for this** ribbon dancing sessions). year's Chinese New

To mark the official start to the Year of the Tiger, which begins on February 14, Art Central will be hosting a series of workshops that are suitable for all the family.

able for all the family.
Between February 1620, sessions such as
Chinese calligraphy,
painting, ribbon dancing
and puppet making will
be offer, all provided by
expert artists.
Coun Anthony Freet

Coun Anthony Ernest. the cabinet member for tourism and leisure, said: "The council aims to stage a wide-ranging series of exhibits to show the multi-cultural diversity of not only the Vale, but the wider area. "Chinese New Year is

a very special occasion for many in the south Wales area and our exciting programme of events aims to reflect and pro-

Booking is essential for all workshops. You can download a booking form from www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/arts ed at night with lantern

local library.
Full details of the workshops at Art Central are as follows:

Tuesday, February 16

- Chinese Calligraphy -With a history of four to 5,000 years, the art of calligraphy is an important part of Chinese cul- palace with mystical ture attracting the attention of artists the world ing in multi-coloured over. Wednesday, February

Wednesday, February 17 – Qigong (or ch'i kung) 18+ years only – Qigong is an internal Chinese meditative practice which often uses slow graceful move-ments and controlled breathing techniques to promote the circulation of 'qi' within the human body, and enhance over-

A HOST of oriental vide something of inter- all health. Learn how to let go of life's stresses in

Thursday, February 18

Chinese painting. Friday, February 19 Lantern making and mini dragon puppets – The last day of the celebrations is known as the 'lantern festival', and is celebrator collect one from your displays and a parade local library. Have a go at making

Chinese lanterns.

Saturday, February 20 Ribbon Dancing -Chinese legend has it that cloud-like long robes through this dance tech-Participants nique. should wear comfortable clothes in which to

dance. For further informa tion. contact: Joanna Brewer, Communications Coordinator, telephone 01446 709453; Email: jlbrewer@valeofglamor gan.gov.uk

Charity offers free advocacy surgeries AGE Concern is its the coffee shop on a strong position to exer-

Health Shop, 38 from 10am-12.30pm.
Helton Pond for The service is avail-

providing a free monthly basis and the advocacy surgery at for February 18, March its Barry Senior 18, April 22, and May 20, following issues:

Health Shop, For Holton Road, for local older people.

The service is as an able for people over 60 who have difficulty have difficulty a regions service. local older people.

The advocate volunteer, Mr John Mason, vister, Mr John Mason, vister and/or are not in a

Friendship group A MONTHLY friendship group is held at the Age Concern Senior health shop in Holton Road, Barry, on the third Wednesday in the month.

The next meeting is to be held on February 17. Varied programme with talks on topics of interest, bingo, card making. Meet at 2pm-4pm. Anyone over 50 is welcome.

The cost is 50p, to include tea/coffee and cake.

Further information on 01446 400044 or 01446

tion and support with the

- Residential, nursing and community care

 Health
 Housing
- Accessing services

Writing and/or making telephone

calls

Representing individuals' wishes and/or negotiating with a third party agency
For further informa-

tion, contact the Vale Advocacy Co-ordinator, Ana Phillips, on 01446 795632. Ana, John and other volunteers will also do home visits if appro-

Talk tells of Everest travels

THE Vale Association National Members met in January ing talk given by Mr £10 for two members; David Alan, on reduced to £3.75 × 10.55

The next meeting will
be held on Wednesday, "In the spring and sumbe neld on wednesday. February 17 at 7.30pm in the Duke of Wellington, when the speaker, Mr David Harrison, will talk about 'Dylan Thomas Lives On'.

Membership of the association is open to any interested person who is a: paid-up member of the National Trust or Scotland.

of spouse/partner of a life Glamorgan member, or a National of Trust staff member or Trust volunteer.

THE GEM - 19

The annual subscripand tion (payable on January 1) is: £7.50 for one Trekking in the respectively, for those foothills of Everest'. joining after June.

A spokeswoman said: mer, there are trips to various National Trust properties, which are always most enjoyable. We welcome new members. So, why not come along to our February meeting?

For further informa-tion, contact the memberfor ship secretary on 01443 the 223230.

Ty Hafan lottery winners

THE following are 377417; 199899; 257000; 858856; 114772; 279140; winning numbers in 185774; 166301; 552948; 818303; 324703; 638970; the Ty Hafan 679993; 249513; 126750; 673296; 278204; 614777; 307645 Crackerjackpot lottery draw number 604.

- £2000: 391945. The rollover, which now stands at £2,000,
- was not claimed this week.
- £10: 671915; 290921; 266013; 716653; 692608; 719654; 663889; 468581; 622687; 100400; 701092; 731462; 444184;
- 307645.
- **£5:** 671101; 834457; 424631; 334486; 616837; 648299; 115816; 497282; 811665; 114621; 810783; 579018; 556262; 139351; 332162; 423857; 755217; 328002; 497986; 391178;

568815; 197400; 822840; 898068; 707988; 215100; 106705; 736533; 381815; 808464; 282045; 573931;

298929; 823273; 658993 346640; 668389; 797962 295419; 195652; 745831; 847679; 717013; 198338; 319611; 249037; 486116;

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

The Garden Show Saturday, 20th February

10.00 am - 5.00 pm Sunday, 21st February 10.30 am - 4.00 pm **FREE ENTRY**

Craft Fayre • Owl Display • Tortoises 10% OFF StyleGardens products

Saturday, 20th at 1.00 pm Allotments gardening talk by TERRY WALTON

Special show offers available in store Good selection of 'Grow your own' products now available

PORT ROAD, WENVOE, CARDIFF Tel. 029 2059 8118 www.stylegardens.co.uk

and Ty Hafan, the family hospices for young lives. The cycle ride from Anglesey to Cardiff, will help children from all over Wales who attend hospices for essential respite care. For more information on the Cycle Ride, contact Paul Morgan on 01708 502471, or Mandy

Wakely on 01685 371024 (email paul@welsh-guardsreunited.co.uk or mwakely1a@aol.com).

Charity bike

ride for Ty Hafan

children's hospice



CHRIS FRANKS AM

Plaid Cymru Assembly Member Central Wales Central

ADVICE SURGERY

WHEN: Friday 12th February WHERE: Murchfield Community Centre Sunnycroft Lane, Dinas Powys TIME: 4.00pm—5.00pm

The Best Possible Start... The Best Possible Future OPEN MORNING Saturday 27th February 2010

A Co-Educational Day and Boarding Preparatory School with a Pre-Prep and Day Nurseries welcoming children from 3 months - 13+ years

John's-on-tho-Hill School, Tatalill, Chepstow, Monrocathshira NP16 7LZ 1291 622945 Fax 61291 623932 Email: registrar@olgotracothetell.co.uk www.stjotracothetell.co.uk. Registered Charity No. 312363



9.30am - 12noon

St. John's-on-the-Hill School and Day Nurseries

A Word from the Head:

At St. John's we believe that education is much more than academic achievement. Widely recognised by experts, the importance of a rounded experience, provides a positive and useful education. We embody this ethos at St. John's ensuring all children in our care are given the best possible start to provide for the best possible future.

We understand and value every child for their individuality so our child for their individuality so our approach to childcare in the Nurseries reflects this philosophy. We want to make sure that each child is nurtured and their capabilities are fostered so that they enjoy school and build on their successes. Children from 3 months to preschool are anious a played expired.

Children from 3 months to preschool age enjoy a relaxed, caring environment, surrounded by a fully qualified team. Our mission is to ensure that every single child is given the opportunity to realise their full potential, this process begins in the Nursery with children learning through play in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum for learning. Children attending any of our three Day Nurseries are guaranteed a place in the Pre-Prep Department at St. John's in Tutshill, Chepstow, where they continue to learn in a number of different ways. They learn to swim in our own swimming pool, dance and act in the Hall, learn to count, read, use a computer with time outside of the classroom taking part in play, sport and

about nature in our beautiful surroundings

beautiful surroundings.

Family values are an integral part of life at St.
John's. Our boarding house is family-run providing a
real 'home from home'. Children learn to live, work,
share and play together, learning how to grow up
being kind and considerate to others. Having mentors in our older
pupils is a natural way of learning
this for our younger children.

Our senior school scholarship
record speaks for itself. More than
half of the children who leave us at
the end of Year 8 do so with a schol-

st John's-on-the-Hill

the end of Year 8 do so with a schol-arship to the senior school of their choice, testimony to our ability to prepare children fully for the next

stage of their education.

St. John's welcomes children of all abilities and offers a range of scholarships and means-tested bursaries (up to 100%) to ensure that a wide spectrum of

saries (up to 100%) to ensure that a wide spectrum of youngsters can enjoy the benefit of an independent preparatory school education.

The next Open Morning takes place in Tutshill, Chepstow on Saturday 27th February 2010 from 9.30am – 12 noon. All welcome. If you would like further details, please contact Mrs Anne Etchells, Registrar on 01291 622045.

E-mail: registrar@stjohnsonthehill.co.uk or visit the website: www.stjohnsonthehill.co.uk

Exhibition shows how stroke survivors can fight back...



ABOVE: Carwyn Jones with (left to right) Win Griffiths; Coun Rosemary Deere (Mayor of Porthcawl); Coun David Deere (consort to Mayor); Janice Gregory (Ogmore AM); Tracey Thomas (Stroke Association); Chris Franks (learning manager, WEA); Karly Carter (Stroke Association); and Stephen Morgan (artist) (Photograph by Keith E Morgan).

A REMARKABLE exhibitor at Silures Art exhibition Porthcawl is highlighting how people who suffer a stroke can fight back – in this case by becoming accomplished artists.

The exhibition, which will run at the Silures Gallery, South Road, until the end of February, was opened by First Minister Carwyn Jones, AM for Bridgend.

last Friday (February 5). He said that he was "humbled" by the talent on display, and went on: "It was explained to me that several exhibitors here have had to learn to paint with their 'non-dominant' hand – and

their work is inspiring." He added that the treatment of stroke had improved in the last 15 years, saying that in the past, care was very basic

He added: "However,

so much more can be done now."

Also there was the chairman of the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Hospital Trust, Win Griffiths, Karly Carter of the Stroke Association, and Chris Franks, learning manager for the WEA, which provides art tutors to the Stroke

Association.

One of the tutors at Stroke Positive local Association

Gallery.
A stroke A stroke group spokeswoman said: "With Mike and Thomasin Toohie, our art tutors, she has arranged an exhibition of our art and crafts, for one month, beginning February 6.

"Our Positive Action for Stroke group was opened for taster sessions in April 2004. The group formally started in September 2004 with three years funding from the Big Lottery Fund. "Thereafter, the group

has received support in the way of grants from Bridgend County (BCBC). We receive referrals from speech and language therapists, occupational therapists at the Princess of Wales Hospital, as well as

social workers.
"In relation to the arts and crafts, none of what we achieve could be done without the support of the Workers of the Workers Educational Association. Christine Franks of the WEA, in particular, has been a tremendous ally

to the group."

The GEM spoke to
Stephen Morgan, a
stroke survivor and
artist, who in 2007 won the national Suzie Hulks Memorial Art Award.

He described how he had felt in good health until he had his stroke, but that it had revealed circulatory problems that meant that he had



ABOVE: Carwyn Jones receiving a painting of the Old Bridge, Bridgend, from Stroke Artist Stephen Morgan, to hang in Carwyn's office at

the Assembly. (Photograph by Keith E Morgan).



ABOVE: Tutor Ann Davies and artist Mike Copper with an example of Mike's work.

lost a leg. His painting, howev-First Minister with a painting, saying: "I hear that Rhodri Morgan has left you with nothing but bare walls, so please accept this to brighten up your office."

Ralph Gibbs also received a commenda-

tion this year, for his art-work. Phillip Williams received a national 'Volunteer of the Year Award' in 2008 and the group also helped The Stroke Association achieve and maintain the Charter Mark award.

The GEM also spoke to Ann Davies, who has er, has been an important part of his recuperation, and he presented the pupils, Mike Copper, is exhibiting in the exhibition. Mike also was very

active until his stroke, earning a living as a long-distance lorry driv-

Now, his mobility is limited but, once again, applying himself to art is proving a great help.

Ann told The GEM:

"Before I retired, I was a nurse, so I find myself using both my skills as an artist, and everything I learned during my working life."

Childbirth Trust's nearly new sale

A NEARLY new branch held

Entrance/suggested donation £1/family.
Baby/children's clothes, cy, childbirth and early toys, equipment (eg prams) and maternity wear.

Sellers to contact Julie 01656 662564, or nctnearemail lynewsales@live.co.uk.

raffle prizes gratefully received.

Helpers Conations to support our required from 9am-2pm.
Proceeds are in aid of

(formerly charity sale is being Bridgend, Cowbridge Cowbridge Leisure
Centre on Saturday

Clarky sale is being and Llantwit Major branch), which is raising funds to train three Centre on Saturday, breastfeeding counsellors and two ante natal teach-

> parenthood and aim to give every parent the chance to make informed choices

We try to make sure our services, activities Donations, cakes and and membership are fully

work are welcome. The National Childbirth http://www.nct.org.uk/in-Trust Vale and Valleys your-area/southwales

> Read your GEM online: bridgend-today.co.uk or porthcawl-today.co.uk

International honours for college footballers

week on the international football

Midfield player Shane Davies, forward Lee and Championship.

Owen and centre back Wales started nervousagainst strong Australian touring side.

The week previously, Shane Davies also made his debut for Wales Schools under-18s – a proud week for Shane, Bridgend College and their football academy. The Wales under-19

Colleges versus Australia

proud family and friends, and a stand full of inter-ested football scouts from the Premier League

forced the play. However, the Welsh

The Bridgend trio played their part, with home happy.

Jamie Thomas a rock at Bridgend

BRIDGEND well with both sets of College enjoyed a good a good a good a from the interms in front of breakthrough to reward on the interms; in front of breakthrough to reward on the interms. their industry and stylish football. Lee Owen's delightful delivery of a free kick was met with equal expertise by the Owen and centre back

Wales started nervousdiving Gary Colburn of
Jamie Thomas made their
ly and failed to get into
Newport County to beat
their rhythm as Australia
the diving Australian

goalkeeper.

The last-minute goal

that Welsh However, the team, cheered on by their team.

Started to get a grip on scoreline of their very the game, and passed the first clash in 1988, by ball around with purpose winning the hotly-contested fixture and sending the Welsh contingent home happy.

The team, cheered on by their team.

Started to get a grip on scoreline of their very winning the hotly-contested fixture and sending the welsh contingent home happy.

College



Lee Owen in action. reward for their efforts

on the training field. "The college's w Colleges versus Australia
Schools fixture was the back, Shane Davies
Pootball Academy directory
Football Academy directory
Football Academy directory
Football Academy directory
Football Academy directory
Jason Perry, was education programme
understandably delight-supports all students who
stretching the Australian
back four.

The day kicked off

Aux colleges versus Australia
Football Academy directory
Football Academy directory
Lagrange Structured football and
understandably delight-supports all students who
stretching the Australian
back four.

It's a double header for the **Bridgend Athletic youngsters**

LETIC'S youngsters travelled to Taibach.

Neath Athletic were also there so there would be plenty of rugby. The under-8s started against Neath, as Taibach were struggling for a side. Neath held an unbeaten record, and the Ath started at a furious pace and

scored a great try from Mason Hughes. Neath attacked but the Ath defence held firm and was unbreakable More tries followed for the Ath as their passing and support play was outstanding. Morgan Bennett got the second through a well worked try, Oliver Raynor got the third and Mason Hughes got the fourth of the half, with Neath failing to break the strong Ath defence.

The second half was again one-sided, with Neath trying to score and the Ath holding out and being clinical. Mason Edwards opened the scoring for the Ath ,followed by Dewi Harding, and Mason Edwards got his second of the game with a great solo run.

Neath never gave up and pressed hard in the last couple of minutes, but from a turnover, a planned move was called and Jack Pitts raced down the line to score

With time nearly up. the Ath pounced on a loose ball and after a couple of good passes Oliver Raynor scored his second and finished the

BRIDGEND

GIRLS ARE

CHAMPIONS!

SOPHIE Filipe and Nicole Haswell of

Brackla have taken the title 'All Ladies

Latin American British Champions', after

competing against couples from all over

the UK at the prestigious Winter Gardens,

The girls (both 16) attend Bynteg Comprehensive

school, and are very committed to their dance train-

ing, both evenings and weekends, while studying

Blackpool last month.

towards their GCSEs.

performance by all the Final score: Bridgend Athletic 9

Neath Athletic 0. The player of the match award went to Dan Leyshon for some great running and great passing in the game.

Under-7s v Taibach

THE Ath under-7s played Taibach, who had a mixed side of 7s and 8s and we had to lend them two players, but what an exciting game it was.

The game started with Taibach attacking which led to some early pressure for the young Ath squad. They held firm for much of the first half, but it was Taibach who opened the scoring with a strong run down

the line.
The Ath were not fazed at all, and from the restart, Jordan Gittins raced downfield to even up the score. Taibach put some good moves together and from a good pass they were able to break the Ath defence and score their second.

Once again, the Ath pressed on from the restart and were deep into Taibach territory when Daniel Elias got hold of the ball and raced over to even up the scores at the end of the first half.

The second half was another 'end to end' bat-tle and with both sides playing some good rugby, it was too close to call. Taibach again scored first in the second half but not to be outdone, Jordan Gittins took the ball from a good run of play to even up the scores.

Taibach pushed on and scored another, and yet again the Ath side came straight back and scored another through Ieuan Pippin.
With time almost up

and the game looking likely to be a draw, a dropped ball by Taibach gave the Ath the ball back. Some great straight running and good support play saw the Ath go to within five metres of the Taibach try line, and with only two tags left, Ieuan Pippin raced over to score his second and put the Ath in front.

There was just enough time for Taibach to have one last play, but the Ath squad held on until the final whistle.

Final score: Bridgend Athletic 5

Taibach 4.
Player of the match went to Olivia Thomson who defended and chased everything all

Day care elderly get security talk

Hospital to give a security talk to the elderly who attend a there.

and are trained by Abbie Neeson and Joanne Crane. bogus callers.

week, The packs included M a e s t e g special UV pens to mark Neighbourhood their property and also a PCSO Maria Pascoe handy warning device was invited by staff known as jingles bells, to visit Maesteg which can be attached to ladies' purses.

PCSO Pascoe reportday care centre ed: "The talk was a great success and we had lots Her audience also of questions and discuschool, and are very committed to their dance train-ing, both evenings and weekends, while studying wards their GCSEs.

The audience also of questions and uncestored a free goodie bag' with useful informa-tion on security in the home and how to beat the Hospital to give additional talks."

TONDU JUNIOR AND MINI RUGBY ROUND-UP

Waunarlwydd take early lead but the under-13s fight back

TONDU under-13s visited recycled and a forward crossed Wannarlwydd. early dominance finally was converted. early dominance finally told when a chip into the Tondu 22 was kicked for- team's 22, Tondu got their first ward by a centre, and he score.

The second Waunarlwydd try by Rhydian Jenkins. came from their scrum-half who who made the line.

up on the line but the ball was corner.

and passed to the outside-half, this occasion, wing Ieuan Evans Jenkins. ho made the line. provided the scoring pass to cen-Carwyn Dent held the player tre Carwyn Dent to cross at the 12, Tondu 26.

Carwyn Dent then put Tondu whose over from close range. This try in front when he re-gathered his own kick to run in from halfway to score, converted by Rhydian Jenkins.

Tondu extended their lead further when Osian Flahretty was able touchdown for the try.

The accord Waynerhand to Sam Matthews picked up the ball from five metres out to dive over under the posts, converted over under the posts, converted to the posts, converted to the post of released Carwyn Dent down the al defenders impressively to score Tondu's next try came from out wide for his hat-trick, once

Final score: Waunarlwydd

Tondu and

Win one, lose one for under-10s

TONDU under-10s what they could do and went to Kenfig Hill what they were made of. to play a round robin against the hosts and Maesteg versions were taken avoid the players getting Celtic.

wind blowing as the Tondu youngsters took the field against the

The game began with Tondu playing up the hill on a rather heavy pitch. This didn't daunt

to play flowing rugby.
The Tondu youngsters were finding it work going forfrom inside his own with a side-step

a bit of a lottery. Kenfig Hill got the scoreboard moving with a converted try and, but for some desperate defensive work from Tondu, would have crossed several more times. They did eventually get a second as the half drew to a close.

If Tondu thought playing downhill in the second half would be easier they were sorely mistaken. They showed their skill in defence time and again as Kenfig Hill put the pressure on. Again. the ruck was a little perplexing as turnovers against Tondu happened at regular intervals.

However, Tondu continued to try and play, denied a score when he with good breaks for Jamie Richards and Josh Evans. Kenfig Hill were able to score the first points of the half, although the Tondu tackle or two to get over. The final try of the more than capable of dealing with the threat.

Josh Davies put in a good tackle and held one player up to deny ner. the try. Kenfig Hill finished the game with a further two converted

Hill 33 Tondu 0.

The second match for Kershaw, against Maesteg Celtic, Morgan David, Callum whom they played on Booton, Ioan Thomas, the first game of the season. Maesteg Celtic won Morgan, Ivan Knight the toss and decided to and Eleri Knight. play downhill.

teams set about showing

Maesteg Celtic, (no coneltic. too cold). Tondu There was a chill responded quickly with a try from halfway by Ben Merchant.

Celtic came back almost immediately and got their second, while Tondu had to wait a while to get the scores even, as the game the game

and a lovely spin out of the tackle to get Tondu's

With some changes made for the second half, Tondu took the field and, playing with the slope, got the game back under way.

Tondu nosed in front as Jordan Morgan took another opportunity from distance to run down the touchline for his second try.
Tondu now had the

bit between their teeth and started to show their skills and pace. The forwards began to get the upper hand at the breakdown and suddenly ball was coming their way. Garryn Thomas was

The fourth try came to Jamie Richards, who managed to break a

The final try of the game fell to Garryn Thomas, who kept hold of the ball this time as he dived over in the cor-

Full time: Maesteg Celtic 10 Tondu 25.

Tondu squad: Ben Merchant, Josh Evans, Full time: Kenfig Josh Davies, Jamie Richards, Garryn Tondu was a re-match Thomas, Shannon Price,

Tondu star of the

Mules clash in

distance for the game. fixture at away plenty of game time, Kenfig three periods.

After the poor weath- lead. er lately, the pitch was it was a great credit to both sets of players that they managed to put on move game of rugby.

The first period startmuch quicker out of the blocks, and they soon raced into a 2-0 lead as they burst at will through a static Tondu

Tondu youngsters, they with neither side able to make possession count. of pressure on the Kenfig Hill try-line, which resulted in a try for Daniel Mayne, as he showed great strength to force his way over the poor conditions. for a score.

penalty and raced the length of the field to score in the corner.

The first period scorward strength to touch down, making the score ising try. 3-2 to the home side.

The second period gain started with pacey backs to good

Tondu showed great determination, however, and another light-Ryan ning break from his own half saw Callum opposite corner.

good strength and slick handling allowed Lewis Again, despite the matches was awarded to Oates to break from the heaviness of the pitch Garryn Thomas, for his halfway line to make Mathews, Lewis Oates, and cold hands, both all round play.

Tolind Star of the haldming allowed Lewis Keegans, Ellis heaviness of the pitch Garryn Thomas, for his halfway line to make the score 5-4, and the Morgan Strong. JK Tondu boys began to

battle royal! The first try fell to TONDU under-9s believe they could get travelled the short something from the

> The joy was short-Kenfig Hill, and to lived, though, as give each player straight from the restart, Hill burst it was agreed to play though a tired defensive line to increase their

> Just as the period was very wet and muddy, so coming to an end, a tremendous flowing from Tondu an exciting, end-to-end ended with a try for Ellis Mathews as he sped down the left-hand ed with Kenfig Hill touchline, making the score at the end of a pulsating period 6-5 to Kenfig Hill.

> The third period was a scrappier affair, with Just as it began to defences on top as the look ominous for the game ebbed and flowed with neither side able to

By this time, the ball was like a bar of soap and both sides did well to retain possession in

Just when it looked Soon after it was 2-2 as though Tondu's as Callum Vause efforts would come to received a quick tap nothing, a terrific rolling maul pushed Kenfig Hill back onto their own try line and, ing was completed by after a sustained period Kenfig Hill, however, of pressure, Ciaran as they showed good Edwards emerged with handling skills and for- the ball to force his way over for the vital equal-

Both sides still had chances to win the Kenfig Hill attacking, match, but at the final and they used their whistle a 6-6 draw was whistle a 6-6 draw was a fair result, rewarding effect as they stretched the great effort and their lead to 5-2. determination of both determination of both teams.

Tondu: Luke Dingle, Dunlop, Edward Ciaran Edwards. Vause reduce the deficit Nathan Harris, Daniel to 5-3 with a try in the Mayne, James Murray, Harry Olding, Patrick The comeback was well and truly on when Callum Vause, Lewis Dyke, Cameron Keegans, Ellis

Pencoed ladies work on their rugby skills



PENCOED RFC's new ladies team (pictured above) are in strict training for the season. Back row: Katie Murphy, Beth Butler, Shauna Blake, Hannah-Leigh Young, Hannah Bronskill, Rebecca Pope, Kathryn Stonehouse, Rachel Howells.

Front row: Chloe Pope, Jodie Parsons, Sarah Hinton, Sophie Williams , Michelle Halse, Rachel Watts, Cartin Younc.

Porthcawl's new mini-soccer pitch

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The pitch will be man-the year. The pitch has an anweather playing surface
and will be used for mini
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11 open each evening.

What was always
going to be a hard
game.

Both teams started

Same well but Athletic now has facili-ties for the development of football for children over the age of five

situated alongside the come to fruition current changing rooms

JOHN N

PORTHCAWL at Locks Lane allowing Athletic is almost access to toilet and ready to open its new SCANSIS allowing children maxi-

when it will be locked

and secured.
The spokesman said:
"The management comyears. mittee at Porthcawl A club spokeswoman Athletic, along with said: "As well as a secure Bridgend County football arena, these Borough Council, has facilities can be used for worked tirelessly to netball, basket-ball, five-ensure that this facility a-side football and hock-came to Portheawl and ey. we are dengined to see "The Scansis pitch is many months of planning

JOHN NELSON

The Croissants upset the odds in league win



The Racing Inter team.

a-side Division title race looks a lot less like a after runaway leadcampaign,

Dunraven took tull advantage as they also closed in, Matt Baker in joining the Bridgend cooked up a storm in a Six-a-side Leisure comfortable 3-0 win over League, they can call Racing Inter. Team G are 0845 230 2340 or visit also a long shot for hon-www.leisureleagues.net Connor Goldsworthy stand work while six-yard box. Pen-y-Fai scrambled ance.

THE Bridgend Six- ours, as Lloyd McVeigh Premier was influential in their 4-Heroes. Athletico Brackla are

forgone conclusion the only side in the first division to remain undeers B Attack suf- feated, but could only fered only their sec-ond reverse of the with Multiple S. Young going Exiles made it two wins down 3-1 to second out of three as they edged place Croissants.

Dunraven took full

Dunraven ful

Two wins for under-12s in busy weekend PENCOED under- was there to strike it

12s welcomed Pen- into the goal, making it y-Fai this week in 3-1

the game well but Pencoed settled into their stride and started to create some good chances

Just before half-time, Pen-y-Fai cleared the

right hand corner.
The second half started with Pen-y-Fai creating chances, but ped's defence Pencoed's stood their ground with excellent performances by Evan Price, Tom by Evan Price, Tom Miller, Jonathan Humphries and Ben Gwither.

Pencoed seemed to switch off for a few minutes with Pen-v-Fai winning every ball, and with 10 minutes left to play.

Pencoed picked up ed team.

The players did not and the effort they put in run during the last quarter Goldsworthy, of the game was outstanding.

Pencoed picked up the ball on the halfway line, and passed it well to give Ben Gwither a one on one' with the keeper to make it 2-1.

With five minutes left, Pencoed pressured the Pen-v-Fai defence once again.

With minutes left, Pencoed had a corner, Connor Goldsworthy

Cup win for under-12s PENCOED welcomed Penydarren for an unusual Sunday fixture in the Boys and Girls Clubs of Wales Cup.

Pencoed started really well, with no sign of ball, but only as far as tiredness after the previ-Lewis Butler, who ous day's hard fixture, struck a fantastic shot created some brilliant created some brilliant straight into the top chances in the first 10 minutes but just couldn't find the back of the

> Penydarren began to gain more possession and the game started to even out a bit with both teams coming close. Penydarren were the first to score with a lovely free kick from outside the 18-yard box.

Pencoed kept battling and Jordan Burrows they to open up the equalised with a well-defence making it 1-1 taken goal. The second half was

dominated by Pencoed, who could have been their game and started four or five goals ahead, to look like an undefeat- but good saves from the 'keeper kept them out. Pencoed scored their

want to lose their record second after a lovely by Connor drove the ball home to make it 2-1. Pencoed kept the

pressure on and made some changes with some fresh legs coming Connor on. Goldsworthy linked up with Jordan Burrows. who put in a cross for Lewis Butler to head into the back of the net.

Pencoed had an outstanding game and worked really hard, while Penydarren also put in a good perform-

CG



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Family Notices >

LECKIE Gwylfa (Gwyl)

On February 4 at Velindre Hospital after a short illness, faced with courage and dignity, surrounded by his family, Gwylfa of Jenner Road, Barry.

Well-known and respected teacher in Cardiff and the Vale. Loving husband of Lesley, much-loved dad to Sara and Hannah, dear son of Gwenda and Clive. He will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son funeral home Gladstone Road, Barry, until the funeral service on Thursday February 18 in the chapel at 10.15am. Afterwards, cremation at Coychurch 12 noon. Family flowers only. If desired, donations may be Patiniy Howers only. It desired, donatons may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for Dogs Trust Bridgend and Princess Margaret Ward, Velindre Hospital. At the family's request, please wear rugby jerseys or red attire.

REGAN

Katrena, Mandy and families wish to thank everyone for their kind words and support during our sad loss. Special thanks to the District Nurses who made Dad's last days comfortable and happy, Dr Goodfellow and Dr Stephen Jones for their patience and help, Father Pat for his Blessing, Rev Treharne for a lovely service, W James & Sons for their professionalism and Rhoose Social Club for the tribute to Dad.

GRIFFITHS Ruby Louise

On February 2nd peacefully at UHW, Cardiff, Ruby, aged 5 years, of Llantwit Major, Precious daughter of y and David, beloved sister of David, Richard, Ben, Donna and Takita and sisters-in-law Emma and Liz.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Friday February 12th, service 2pm at Tabernacle Presbyterian Church, Methodist Lane, Llantwit Major followed by interment in Llantwit Major Cemetery. Please wear bright colours Flowers may be sent to the Funeral Home.

Now dancing with the angels.

PRUCE Olive

Peacefully on February 3rd at Springbank Nursing Home, Barry, Olive in her 101st year, formerly of Rhoose. Beloved wife of the late Albert, dearly loved mother of Clifford and daughter-in-law Barbara, much loved grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Monday February 15th, service 1.45pm at Porthkerry Church followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 3.15pm. No flowers by request, donations in lieu if desired to Cancer Research Wales, Velindre Hospital, Whitchurch, Cardiff.

Public Notices

LICENSING ACT 2003

pplied for the variation of a applied for the variation of a premises licence pursuant to Sections 34/37 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the following licensing activities at The Mount Sorrel Hotel, Porthkerry Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan. The application is to vary the premises licence to provide live music, recorded music, performance of dance, dancing, each day of the week from 1200 hrs to 1/30 hrs; the provision of late. of the week from 1200 hrs to 0230 hrs; the provision of late night refreshments every day of the week on 2200 hrs to 0230 hrs and the sale by retail of alcohol every day of the week from 11000hrs to 0300 hrs. This application also includes the removal of a number of converted conditions.

conditions.

The application can be inspected at the Vale of Glamorgan Council Licensing Section, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU. Any interested party responsible authority may make representations to the relevant Licensing Authority by March 10, 2010. Any representation sto make the presentation of the relevant Licensing authority by March 10, 2010. Any representation shall be made in writing.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false

recklessly to make a false statement in connection with this application, the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction being £5,000.

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE Ronald Howe & Brian Phillip

Ronald Howe & Brian Phillip
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goods vehicles and 2 trailers.
and to use
H&T Haulage, Lynwood.

and to use
H&T Haulage, Lynwood,
Brynna Road, Pencoed,
Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan
CF35 6PD
as an operating centre for 1
goods vehicle and 0 trailers.

goods veintee and of trainers. Owners or occupiers of the land including buildings) near the operating centre who believe that heir use or enjoyment of that and would be affected, should land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within time send a copy of their notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A guide to making representation is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

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NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER

SECTION 119 HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO. 20 WELSH ST DONATS)

DIVERSION ORDER 2009

On the 21 January 2010 the Valle of Clamorgan Council confirmed the above Order.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to divert part of the public footpath as set out

A copy of the confirmed Order and Order map may be seen at the address below free

of charge between 9:00am and 4:00pm on weekslaws from 11 February 2010 until 25

This Order comes into force on the 21 January 2010, but if any person aggrished by

the Order desires to question its validity or that of any provision contained in it, or

the ground that it is not within the powers of the above Act, or on the ground that any requirement of that Ast or any regulation made under it has not been complied with in

elation to the confirmation of the Order, heishe may, under paragraph 2 of Schedule 2

to the Act as applied by paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from the

SCHEDULE

Site of Existing Path Commences at ST 0501 7798 at the north eastern corner of Uwynddu and runs southwards through a narrow alley to a stile below an electricity pylon at ST 0306

7770. The path then runs nonfreestwords across a field, then northwards along the field boundary to the farmyard at ST 0318 7786. The path trans asstwards to cross the briner farmyard to ST 0326 TRST then follows the accommodation road southwestwords to terminate on the adopted highway at ST 0342 7777.

Site of New Path

Commences at ST 0301 7768 at the north eastern corner of Liwynddu and rune eastwerds across a field to ST 0317 7782. The path then follows the field boundary

northwards to ST 0318 7796 where it turns eastwards across two fields to ST 0347 7796 at the adopted highway. The path then continues southward along the adopted highway to terminate at ST 0342 7777.

Dated 11 February 2010

Director of Environmental & Economic Repensation

Docks Offices, Subway Road, Barry, CF63 4RT

date on which the Notice is first published make an application to the High Court.

March 2010. Copies of the Order and map may be bought here at a price of £3.50

14) Ot **Barry**

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THE BEST BUILDERS AND BUILDINGS IN THE VALE RECEIVE THEIR ACCOLADES



RECENTLY, The GEM reported the nominations for the Vale of Glamorgan Building Awards, and the winners (pictured here)

have now been announced

Colin Blick, the Vale Council's operational manager for building control, said: "The nominations this year were once again of high quality.

"The winners will now go forward to the South Wales LABC Cymru awards, which will be held at the Mecure Holland House Hotel, Cardiff, on March 12, hosted by BBC TV personality Jason Mohammed.

"This was the seventh event that we have organ-ised and it seems to go from strength to strength. My thanks go out to the sponsors, The GEM, Ivorfire, Grab-it, Best Western Mount Sorrel Hotel

Ivorfire, Grab-it, Best Western Mount Sorrel Hotel and Steve Nicholls Estate Agents.

"Unfortunately, this will be my last year hosting the awards, as I will soon be leaving the Vale of Glamorgan Building Control Group.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone, especially my team in building control, for all the help and assistance I have received over the past 32 years, 25 years of those in building control."

See more pictures on facing page.



ABOVE: The winners of the commercial category: Leekes of Llantrisant for the New Pavillion at Hensol.



ABOVE: Highly Commended in the extension and alterations category were TW Boagey for their work at 10, Cornerswell Place, Penarth.

Also Highly Commended in the extension and alterations category were Brian Toutt & Sons Builders for their extension at The Cottage, Westgate, Cowbridge. They are pictured receiving their award from Julie Bannon.



The sponsors with Colin Blick (operational manager for building control), Wendy Byrne (Grab-It), Shaun Doyle (Ivorfire), Julie Bannon (manager Mount Sorrel), Steve Nicholls (Steve Nicholls Estate Agents), Jan Irving (The GEM), and Maria Webber (technical and development officer, building control).



ABOVE: The joint winners of the multiple housing category were Langdale Homes Ltd and Centregreat Ltd. They are pictured with sponsor Steve Nicholls



ABOVE: The winners of the new single dwelling category were Goldsworthy Homes Ltd., for a new dwelling at 10, Clive Place, Penarth. They are pictured with Wendy Byrne and Colin Blick.







ABOVE: Winning the social affordable housing category was ET & S Construction Ltd., for flats at Bassett Street, Barry. (Pictured with Jan Irving of The GEM).



ABOVE: The winner of the extension and alterations category was Mr Martyn Jones for the extension at The Old Vicarage, Pendoylan. He is pictured with Julie Bannon of the Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry.



ABOVE: Highly Commended in the extension and alterations category were Gwyn G Jones & Sons Ltd, for their extension at Ty Cwar, St Brides Major.

Highly Commended In the commercial category was Carter Llauren for the unit at Llandough Hospital. (Pictured with Shaun Doyle of Ivorfire).

Building Awards winners



ABOVE: Highly commended in the social affordable housing section were Pendragon Design & Build Ltd, for their flats at Vere Street, Barry.



ABOVE: Highly commended in the category for multiple dwellings was Mike Guthrie of AJF Building Services for dwellings at River Court, Treoes



ABOVE: Highly commended in the new single dwelling section were Steve Lee Builders for the former Vale Garage site, St Mary Church.

Netball B team's rally not enough

LLANTWIT Major Cynffig widening the gap
B team hoped to further. With nothing to notch up another lose, captain win when they faced Griffin made Cynffig B, especially as they had beaten them in a very tight game previously.

Cynffig were ready for Llantwit and threw everything at them in the first half first quarter. Llantwit were stunned by the onslaught and were nine goals behind after the

wasn't much better with

changes at half-time and Llantwit seemed to wake up and the opposition were finally challenged.

In the last quarter Llantwit pulled back well first half.

The final score was Cynffig B 32-Llantwit B

Player of the match first 15 minutes. Player of the n
The second quarter was Grace Osborne.

Athletic under-9s and the strange case of the missing rugby team!

Athletic under-9s travelled where Taibach, they were joined by Neath Athletic for a round robin.

First, Taibach and leath played, with Taibach coming out win-ners 8-0. After a short break, Ath Greens took on Taibach, who were short of players, so the

game was eight a side.

With both sides defending hard with some fine tackling, they were cancelling each other out in the early

Ath forwards worked hard and secured some good ball for the to work with. allowing the Ath to score first through Connor

Taibach were giving their all and throwing everything at the Greens. but the defence held and it was not long before the next try came from the Ath backs, with

Kasri Mehta racing in. With half time approaching it was the forwards who got onto the score sheet, with a

BRIDGEND Fillis, who was having a Taibach players hanging

strong game.
The second half was just as tough as the first. Taibach were getting close to the Ath line following good play from their forwards and crisp handling from their backs.

However, credit must go to the Ath defence, which weathered the storm, allowing them to get their fourth try, from another powerful run into the corner by Daniel O'Sullivan.

In the next passage of play, Teo Fillis went on a charging run, only to be brought down by a number of Taibach players.

After a knock on, Taibach took advantage and one of their players made a break, and with no one in front of him, a

no one in front of him, a try seemed certain. However, Daniel O'Sullivan had other ideas, and produced the tackle of the season so far to save the day. Jamie Marshall then

took a bump and Louis King took his place and tackled well. Teo Fillis was the next

to score, with one of his the score sheet, with a trademark powerful powerful run from Teo runs, and with several

on his back,

Final score: Ath

Greens 5 - 0 Taibach.

The Taibach coaches

selected Teo Fillis as man of the match for the Gwilvm Greens:

John, Jack Obbard, Teo Fillis. Daniel O'Sullivan, Daffydd Beach, Connor Fabian, Kasari Mehta and Jamie Marshall. Replacement: Louis King.

The Yellows were supposed to play Neath Athletic in the next game but, for unknown sons, Neath had left.

Taibach had already played two games and were too tired to play a third, so the Taibach coach. allowed the Athletic to use their pitch and play a game pitting the Bridgend squads against each other, so that the Yellows would not have a wasted journey.

Yellows: Morgan Evans, James Hermolle. Charles Creffield, Tidy, Christopher Hart, Megan Webb, Sam Megan and William Veasey

Maesteg judo kids pass their grading test



ABOVE: The nder-8s group at Maesteg.

MAESTEG Sports Centre was busy recently when the centre held its judo grading.

Maesteg Judo Kwai has more than 80 members of all ages, with the youngest followers just five years old.

Led by instructor Kerry Pulvirenti who is passionate about judo, the club's dedication shone through with all the boys and girls attempting their grading being successful.

Some children gained the Dragon ade one, others grade two, with sevgrade one, others eral passing the higher Dragon grades three and four.

A club spokeswoman said: "A special congratulations goes out to star pupil, Daffydd Goodridge, who gained his full Dragon purple belt - which is

all four grades in one attempt."

Centre manager Nick Flay said: "This is a great achievement for all those involved. Here at Maesteg Sports Centre we pride ourselves on supporting local clubs and promoting the benefits of being active in our local

For further information about leisure activities in the borough visit: www.bridgend.gov.uk/leisure

THE MULES LOSE OUT

IT was a disappointing day for the Mules who kicked off early in

Briton Ferry.
Outside-half Nicky
Giles scored all of
Kenfig Hill's points with a try and two penalties. Back row forward Steve Gillard had an outstanding game, and youth captain Shaun Burnell had a

good game at centre. Under-8s in round robin

A muddy Sunday morning saw Kenfig Hill under-8s host Tondu and Maesteg Celtic. Great commitment was shown by the players of each club during three closely fought games.

Kenfig under-8s ran out first against Tondu, with the Mules continuing their impressive form of late to record an 8-5 victory. Captain Ben Evans

PHOTOGRAPHS BY

PETER GILLING

Ray Evans hands off a tackle.

KENFIG HILL FIRSTS **BRITON FERRY**

collected a brace, averaging a try a game since his return.

Connor Hill played an absolute blinder in attack, recording an excellent second try of the season.

expertly collected a bobbling ball over the try line for his score. while a rampaging Tom Watkins and twinkletoed Jack Rundle

now complemented by a sweet side-step and burst of pace. Liam Evans' bal-

tags. Cameron Trehar was constantly in the face of opposition attacks, forcing them backwards.

Dylan Pearson

picked up one each.
Rhys Perry (two)
showed that his customary thundering style is

anced and ground-mak-ing running was only stopped by last-gasp

Under-7s

Following their elders onto the field were the under-7s. Tondu played superbly to lead early in the second half before the young Mules squeezed out a hard earned 8-6 win.

The under-7s, captained by Alex
Underhill with his third consecutive hat-trick, are rightly proud of their impressive season so far

George Buckley's sharp eye for a try con-tinued, even managing to stay focused despite the sideline chattering of mum Paula!

Jack Davies and Oliver Pinches shared four tries equally, their all-round performances all the more impressive given their time on the bench.

An outstanding display of teamwork and effort came from name sakes Ewan Davis and Ewan Orchard, matched by hard-running Thomas Llewellyn.

Enormous credit goes to Conor Jenkins, repeatedly looking for close-quarter work despite swimming 40 lengths in the pool the day before.

A special mention also goes to Max Griffiths, doing a great job in his first game for the mini-Mules.
Despite the two earli-

er matches, all the squad wanted some game-time against the visitors from Maesteg Celtic.



A cracking game, evenly balanced throughout, ended with a sprint into the corner for a final play try by Mark Underhill.

The referee had to check with score-master 'Carl the Calc', to confirm the slimmest of winning margins, 6-5 to Kenfig Hill.

A gutsy display by ever-improving Luke Tozer resulted in his first-ever try for the mini-Mules. Harry Cooper left scorch marks down one touch-line for his 15th of the

Ben Evans showed his silky, balanced run-ning style off perfectly to bag his second brace of the day. Gliding around the

defence to record his 24th try of the season was Oliver Pinches, still needing a few more though to match his

though to match his mum Laura's age. Happy birthday Laura! Maesteg Celtic ran superbly all game but the defence of the Mules, organised bril-

liantly by Connor John and Joshua Jones proved to be decisive.

Dafydd Jones and Oliver Roberts supported their team mate wonderfully.

ABOVE: Captain Derwyn Rees passes in the first team game ..

Eagles athletes are honoured

AT the recent World Organisation of Martial Art Athletes (WOMAA) awards night, three Eagles kickboxing students were acknowledged for their outstanding achievements dur-

ing the 2009 series. Young Thomas Evans (12 years old) was awarded a prestigious plaque, earned as Eagles 'Kickboxing student of the year', by Master Mal Johns for his all-round effort during 2009.

Jade Morgans, after only seven lessons with the Eagles, stepped into the ring at the final com-petition of the WOMAA series 2009, and faced off against a very experi-

enced opponent.

Jade fought a second

Dan black belt in her very first competition and although losing, gave her opponent a

Newly-promoted instructor James Eveleigh received a number of awards.

He was presented with his certificate of achievement and recognition of his grade of Black belt. and he was also awarded his coaching certificates. levels 1 and 2

Contact 07737835237 for club information

BRYNCETHIN MIN AND JUNIOR RUGBY ROUND UP

Cut and thrust in match-ups as local rivals put on a show

ON A DRY and clear Sunday morning, players having Bryncethin underplayed for the 7s hosted 'The under-7s Youngstars' of **Bridgend Sports** and carved out a experienced visitors. However, this was an hard earned victory in a close and competitive game

of rugby. It was the Bryncethin youngsters who broke the deadlock, after excellent direct running The game started at a by Ifan Hunnam and Shaun Batchelor tied in

the Bridgend Sports defensive line. Rhys Cawley took ossession of the ball from deep and sprinted around the onrushing defence to score in the

Outstanding defen-sive work by Kane Walters, Thomas Bassett and Morgan Hughes ensured that Bryncethin repelled

every attacking move. As the defensive lines of both teams were very much on top, the half ended with Bryncethin holding a slender 1 - 0 lead

The second half saw Bryncethin increase the tempo and begin to pass the ball around in order to create space on the

Miles Blakeman and Holly Morgan linked well to make the line break, before feeding Rhys Cawley to dart through and cross the

try line unopposed. The Bryncethin youngsters completed the scoring following an excellent break by Jake Whitefield. Rhys Cawley collected the pass and side-stepped his way through the covering players, to score a superb try.

In the closing play of the game, Bridgend Sports mounted a flowing attacking move and tried to break through the Bryncethin defence. However, with the try

line beckoning, Mike Gillette and Rhys Williams managed to close down the space and force the visitors into touch.

The final whistle then

blew, with Bryncethin holding the visitors out for an impressive 3 – 0 victory.

There were excellent showings throughout the whole team, espe-cially in defence, but this week's standout performance award went to Rhys Cawley for his superb support play and evasive running for a hat-trick of tries, well done!

Squad: Morgan Hughes (captain), Thomas Bassett, Shaun Batchelor, Miles Blakeman, Rhys Cawley, Mike Gillette, Ifan Hunnam, Holly Morgan, Kane Walters, Jake Whitefield and Rhys Williams

With all but four Bryncethin fielded a very young side against their more

extremely well-contest-ed match, with Bridgend Sports finally sealing the win as the home side tired late in the second half.

frenetic pace with tremendous play from Ifan Hunnam and Mike Gillette, who both crossed for Bryncethin. Their tries capped off excellent running moves involving several phases of play. However, the visitors

managed to level the scoring with well-taken tries of their own.

With half-time beckoning, Bryncethin seized the advantage with a superbly-taken

try by Ifan Hunnam. Runs by Billy Sinclair and Ben Lewis were halted by the visi-tors but excellent support play by Ifan allowed him to gather the ball from Rhys Williams and dart over in the corner.

The result was a deserved 3 - 2 interval lead for the home team.

The second half started with the visitors levelling the score straight from the restart. Bryncethin responded with runs from Josh Nuth, Miles Blakeman and Holly Morgan. However, these

attacks were halted as Bryncethin were unable to penetrate the visitors defensive line and possession was turned over.

Bridgend Sports then took control of the game, scoring two fur-ther scores in quick succession, as the home team tired.

Morgan Hughes Shea Francis and Jake Whitefield claimed excellent tags as they defended each attack. but the visitors still managed to break through the defensive line because of excellent close support play. With time running

out, Bryncethin still pushed on, attempting to narrow the score line. Rhys Williams took possession and broke through the defensive line with a swift side-

step. His pass fed Billy Sinclair on the wing but the covering defenders got back to prevent the scoring opportunity and claim the hard

earned 5 – 3 victory.

Despite the loss, there were excellent dis-plays of defensive and attacking rugby from every player involved. This week's standout performance award went to Billy Sinclair (on his eighth birthday)

for his excellent attacking runs and impressive teamwork.

Final score: Bryncethin 3 Bridgend Sports 5.

Squad: Billy Sinclair (captain), Thomas Bassett, Shaun Batchelor, Miles Blakeman, Rhys Cawley, Shea Francis, Mike Gillette, Morgan Hughes, Ifan Hunnam, Ben Lewis, Holly Morgan, Josh Nuth, Kane Walters, Jake Whitefield and Rhys

UNDER-9s At long last, after a mammoth break of eight weeks due to the weather. Bryncethin-under-9s were reintroduced to each other.

It was no surprise that Bryncethin started tentatively, with the sharper Sports players showing greater hunger to retain possession at the breakdown.

One thing that hadn't suffered as a result of the enforced lay off was the commitment in defence.

The always excellent Daniel Osarigie, Josh Napper Finlay Mullens and Davis Pilkington were never afraid to put themselves on the line the repel an attack.

The Sports were comfortable passing the ball through hands and were rewarded when they managed to create an opening to run in the only score of the first half.

Following some directions from the coaching staff at half-time, the Bryncethin players started to find their rhythm. With the likes of Rhys Davies and Ethan Hopkins making forceful runs, Bryncethin were starting to apply pressure to the Sports.

This was rewarded when Tobias Hunt made good ground with some good ground with some direct running. Fast support and clearing out followed to allow Aaron Thomas to dart over in the corner.

Further direct running from Bryncethin allowed the Bridgend Sports players to show their defensive strength as they repelled attacks from Ethan Hopkins, Daniel Osarigie and Finlay Mullens.

Following further pressure, it was again Tobias Hunt who made the break to be brought done just short of the line. With the support players again in evidence, it was Jack Thomas who darted

over for the score. Man of the match: Despite the rusty open-ing all players should be proud of the perform-

Jack Thomas took the award for his excellent all round display rewarded with his try.

Final score: Bryncethin 2 Bridgend Sports 1.

Squad: Tobias Hunt (captain), Rhys Davies, Davies Pilkington, Aaron Thomas, Daniel Osarigie, Finlay Mullens, Ethan Hopkins, Jack Thomas

and Josh Napper UNDER-10s Two good evenlymatched sides put in a gutsy display of committed rugby.

Bridgend Sports were passing the ball around early on but some good counter-rucking from Ryan Blake and Ryan Lovell slowed them down. It was, however, not enough to stop a well-worked Sports try

Bryncethin replied with a powerful run from Dafydd Evans, who pounded a hole in a good Sports defence to tie the scores at half

The second half con-tinued in the same way with some good runs from Emyr Watkins, Aaron Jones and Iwan Veasey, backed up with good defence from Callum Francis, Gethyn Napper and Morgan

Tarr.
With a larger squad to call on, the Sports were able to bring on fresh legs. It was enough to stretch the tired defence of Bryncethin, who saw the visitors go over in

the corner.

Not to be put off, Bryncethin camped out in the Sports half, only to see a Sports player break from the maul and run 40 metres, pursued by three

Bryncethin players.
A brave tackle from Emyr Hunnam with a metre to go was not enough to stop the Sports from crossing for the final score of the match.
Final score:

Bryncethin 1 Bridgend Sports 3.

Well done to Owen Hart in his first game for Bryncethin.

Man of the match:

Ryan Morgan with pow-erful driving in the rucks and mauls

UNDER-11s THIS game was very hard fought with good attacking and defending from both sides.

During the first half, both teams defended well, with Bridgend Sports making some quick breaks, leading to their taking the lead.

Bryncethin responded well with William Blake scoring and Ieuan Davies converting.

Bridgend Sports were to score a further two tries in the first half, but crucially miss one of the conversions.

The second half continued to be a well fought contest.

Bryncethin now using the slope they were able to take advantage, with Scott Winters crossing for a try and Liam

a try by Sam Harding, with the crucial conver sion by Ieuan Davies proving decisive.

Squad: Christian McIntyre, Adam John, Connor Ford, Henry Clark, Ieuan Davies, Jacob Walters (man of the match), Liam Winter. Sam Harding and William Blake.

UNDER-15s From the kick off. Bryncethin's forwards dominated the set pieces against Kenfig Hill and the backs broke the gain line with off the ball runs and fine support play.

The first try was scored by left wing Conner Grisedale. The second try came shortly after, with a great forward effort and prop Owen Williams crashing over. The conversation was kicked by outside half Tim Clemet for a half-time lead of

12-0. The second half saw a revitalized Kenfig side try unsuccessfully to break down the Bryncethin defence which held strong.

The fourth quarter saw a great move, started from well inside the Bryncethin half, the ball being passed out of contact with great supporting play involving backs and forwards end ing in a well-deserved try for outside centre Corey Bater.

All credit to Kenfig for a great effort to the final whistle. A fantastic team effort by Bryncethin, with praise to Derek Prewitt. Nathan Morgan (the try that wasn't) and Corey Bater.

Final score: Bryncethin 17 - 0 Kenfig Hill.

Man of the match Lewis Powell

Squad: Tom Lewis, Nathan Morgan, Owen Williams, Derek Prewitt, Ryan Cross, Conner Law, Jamey Bartlett, Dan Davies, Jordan Williams, Tim Clemet, Conner Grisedale, David Eades, Corey Rater Lewis Powell Jack F Charles. Replacement - Lian Johnston.

HUGHES, who is assis-HYS HUGHES, tant trainer to

Erw Lon on

port him.

Saturday.

He won when winning the men's open

race on Warsaw Pact

and the restricted on

Oca De Thaix, and his

guvnor was there to sup-

Warsaw Pact, a good

Oca De Thaix, who is

winner under rules and a

former inmate of top trainer Philip Hobbs'

vard, is trained by

Robert Scrine at

The prolific

Morgan converting. Aberthin's Tim This was followed by Vaughan, landed a double at the Vale of Clettwr Hunt Point-To-Point Final score; Steeplechases at

Bryncethin 21 - 19 Bridgend Sports.

ones (captain), Aaron Morgan, Morgan Jones Nicholas Morgan, Scott

Bridgend and owned by Catherine Rhead. trained by Robert Luke at Clabeston Road, was a first winner for owner Charlotte Evans. Llangeinor mare Chesnut Annie, owned and trained by Beth

Roberts, finished alone to take the ladies' open race after her other five rivals all failed to complete the course. Her main rival, Bob Bites Back, was the only danger after the rest of the field had either been unseated or pulled up by the ninth fence.

However, he was soon fighting a losing battle and refused at the 11th fence. Chesnut Annie's rider Isabel Tompsett was chalkingup her 50th winner between the flags.

Mrs Rae Jones's nine-year-old bay gelding *Up* There, who is qualified with the Pentyrch Hunt, got home by half-a-length from the pacemaking Twilight Dancer to take the confined race. Up There was the only ride of the meeting for Liam Payter.

Twilight Dancer's rider, Mrs Fiona Williams-Jones (better known as Fiona Wilson) from Bridgend, was having her first ride since retiring five years ago to have her two children and the cheers for her were just as loud as they were for the winner! John Mathias won

both divisions of the maiden race, taking the first on Rith Bob and the second on Rimini. Both winners are owned and trained by Dai Rees.

Cowbridge's James Tudor and Ogmore's Nick Williams both rode winners at the United Services meeting at Lark

James landed a double with Civil Disobedience (restricted division two) and Dovecut Wood (maiden division two) and Nick scored on 5-1 chance RH Garton King (maiden

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

division one) who beat James's mount Allerford

Aberthin's Rhys

Hughes lands a

double at Erw Lon

LOCAL TRAINER'S FILLY IS SHOCK' WINNER AGAIN

CWMI, a four-yearold bay filly trained by Cowbridge's Bryn Palling, was a shock 25-1 winner of the Marriott **Hotel Opening** Spring 2010 Handicap at Lingfield last

Friday. Well ridden by Welsh jockey David Probert, Cwmi led in the closing stages of the race to win by a head from Heart Of

The last time Cwmi won was last July at Bath when scoring at odds of 33-1 and Probert was in the saddle on that occasion too. In fact, the promising Probert is the only rider to have been successful on this

home-bred filly. At Taunton earlier in the week, Rhys Flint from Kenfig Hill, riding his father John's *Dawn* at Sea, won the Conditional Jockeys

Handicap Hurdle. A 12-1 chance, *Dawn* At Sea got home by a head from the 3-1 favourite French Ties in a field of 15 runners.

Aberthin's Tim Vaughan took the next race - the SouthWest-Racing.Com Novices Hurdle - with 25-1 shot Hucking Hero who, ridden by stable jockey Richard Johnson, won by one-and-three-quarter lengths from *Mister* Stickler. Johnson later made it a double when winning on Voramar Two who had eight lengths to spare over the Evan Williams' trained Meanwhile, on May

6, 1954, I attended a pony race meeting at Castleton Racecourse. The clerk of the course was Coun Layton Lougher, who I believe farmed in the Llancarfan area. Perhaps someone will correct me if I'm wrong.

My racecard tells that Jimmy Wilde, the world famous boxer was one of the judges and that the honorary veterinary surgeon was Mr DG Llewellyn of Cardiff.

The stewards were Howard Walker, J Burns, Percy Lewis, Bryn Davies, Trevor Yapp and BJ David.

Jack Powell a bookmaker of 12 Dunraven Place, Bridgend, had a full page advert in the racecard which set me back a shilling (5p) - as did another bookmaker WT Griffiths, popularly known as 'Billo' Griffiths, who had an office at 17 Quay Street, Cardiff.

I don't remember much about the meeting, but Mr JE Tudor of Bridgend had a horse running called Hot Knight, Mr W J Morgan of Cowbridge entered his Lucky Patch and Tirpedo, while Mr EJ Evans of Llanharry entered his horse The

Duke. A four-year-old chestnut colt called Coronation, owned by Cowbridge's Mr TH Morgan, won the Farm Stakes and a silver cup presented by Billo Griffiths, as well as the first prize of £26.

Who were the jockevs? I don't know - they are not on the racecard!

You can email your views/news to Brian Lee

leebrian@btinternet.co m or phone him on 029 2073 6438.

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Farmers are back in the swing of things



Local archer

changes his

world champion, world champion, jointly with N
Mathew Symmonds Bowdler of Llandeilo. is creating a stir in

the archery world.

Despite enjoying a highly successful international career in field archery, Mathew has never before engaged in a quite different discipline - national level target archery – and is aiming for a place in the Commonwealth Games team for 2011.

Mathew has just completed his first tourna-ment in the Federation Internationale T'ir a l'Arc, or International Archery Federation, the world governing body for target archery and the Olympic target archery tournament.

tournament.
The Grand National
Archery Society Welsh
Indoor championships
were recently held at the Welsh Institute of Sport the FITA 18 round, which consists of 60 arrows shot from a distance of 18 metres.

The tournament is the code premier indoor target event in Wales and it fea-tured more than 120 of Wales' top target archers, and Mathew achieved a top five finish, a fantastic start against experienced

Blandy Jenkins Archers, August.

L L A N T W I T Mathew got off to a good Major-based field start, recording a very respectable first dozen arrows to take the lead

> The second dozen say some consistent shooting from the local archer, but he dropped six points in the third dozen, and was overtaken by Bowdler and Tony Nilsen of and Tony Nils Pentref Bowmen.

caused This Symmonds to rally in the fourth dozen, dropping just four points off the maximum to move back into contention.

During the fifth and final dozen, the leaders drew a slim two-point lead on Symmonds and that was enough to push the local archer into fourth place at the finish.

Mathew commented: "I enjoyed the tournament immensely. The FITA (target) code defi-nitely involves a different psychological approach from field shooting, as does shooting to a time limit. I am pleased with my performance today but I need to learn quickly if I am to make an impact in the target

Training in both disci-plines will take Mathew to a combination of field and target archery tour naments throughout 2010, culminating in a defence of his World target archers. Field Archery
Shooting for Championship title in
Llanharan-based club Dahn, Germany in

Under-10s provide a late, late show

under-10s travelled in favour of Cricc.

In the last third,

with the Cricc No 10 controlling the game scoring and three tries.

the end to take the score

to 28-5.

In the second third, Llantwit started to pick the game up and the Llantwit forwards began well done to new debuto play on the front foot, tant Lewis Brown who driving through the Cricc defence. However, the attack. Cricc No 10 was everywhere, and with their Ewan Briggs, Nick winger linking up with Harris, Joe Baker, Oliver him, they were very dan-

was very good with some *luean Wiiliams*, excellent tackling and *Richards and* attacking play, the sec- *Brown*.

LLANTWIT Major ond third finished 24-21

to Cricc on Sunday for their first game since before Christmas.

In the first third, lantwit produced the gods with excellent play in defence and attack, and most of all, team spirit, playing and suplemental supporting each other. They scored two god almost from the kick-off, with the Cricc No 10 thinking by Morgan Gore

tries with some quick thinking by Morgan Gore and Ewan Briggs However, Llantwit third by 14-5 which gave scored a try just before a total score of 57-40.

Man-of-the-match for Llantwit was Sam Bluck who has showed great progress this season in attack and defence. Also, showed good speed in

Team: Luke Pilcher Rowbottom, Morgan Gore, Sam Bluck, Elli. The Llantwit defence Simon, Harry Lovell, sa very good with some luean Wiiliams, Rhys tecllent tackling and Richards and Lewis tacking play, the secwas a resplendent Chris lected the 'Premier

Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society were back in action recently following a long period of inactivity and were made very welcome at Radyr Golf Club, where they competed for the Llanharan Concrete Silver

Rose Bowl, and other quality prizes supplied by the day's generous sponsor Mr Gino Cocco.

Seasonal illnesses, the cold weather and a dodgy curry resulted in a few late withdrawals. with only 24 members turning out for what proved a very enjoyable day on a golf course in excellent condition.

Leading the field at the end of the day with Rooney, whose recent investment in a third set of clubs in three months proved very worthwhile.

In second place, also with 32 points but an inferior back nine, was Colwinstone businessman Clive Edwards, who just edged ahead of third-placed Julian Kelly, who also finished with 32 points.

Poor finish Lack of staying power by Llancadle farmer David Williams

once again proved costly. Having accumulated 26 points after 13 holes to lead the field David fell apart on the final five holes to drop down the leaderboard and finish just outside the

frame with 31 points. Nearest the pin on the par three holes were Keith Wilding (2), president Geraint Davies, Reg Davies and John Davies, who also col-

Turf' sponsored lost ball prize which generated £40 for The Noah's Ark Appeal Fund.

Guest Hugh Williams, having just returned from a very successful and enjoyable skiing trip with pupils and staff from Cowbridge Comprehensive School, won the guest section with an impressive 32 points, in addition to hitting the longest drive of the day to collect the 'Iames the Butcher sponsored prize. Sponsors representative Gerry Davies finished runner-up.

Society members are now looking forward to their annual presentation evening at the Heronston Hotel, Bridgend on Friday February 19. Tickets from Mr Ray Simkiss (01446 774542).

Ryan

O'Sullivan;

Barry Seconds edge local derby with Sully

BARRY Seconds were hoping to continue their good form this calendar vear against determined Sully side in this eagerlyawaited local derby.

The away side started brightly, despite playing against the elements in the first half. A combination of powerful mauling and intelligent kicking kept Barry in their own 22, and while there were glimpses of the backs firing, the final pass was often lacking.

The home side finally got a foothold in the game and a more aggressive approach at aggressive approach at the breakdown pushed Barry into the opposi-tion's 22 and quick recy-cling of the ball saw Grantley Harris power over for the first score of the match; Danny Ryan, coming in for the unavailable Adam Lee, missed the conversion.

Sully were not deflated. however, and continued to be solid in the set piece, especially in the line-out where they fre-quently stole Barry ball.

Their forwards were competing well and they continued to trouble the home side with their driving maul.

it was and it was once again

quick ball that told. Ashley Adams was once again involved, as he sped down the right wing after the ball was flashed wide, and a final inside pass to Ryan allowed the fly-half to touch down. He was unable to add the extras.

Sully came back out in the second half looking for a comeback, and they redoubled their efforts in the scrum, completely dominating the set piece.

Camping in the Barry

22 for long periods of time, it took an outmately were unable to convert.

Valeways winter walks A 'Maritime Love Story Walk' from Sully Island on Sunday, February 14 at 2.30pm, starting from the Captain's Wife car park (£1 refundable car parking

chage against bar purchases). On Wednesday, February 17 at 1.30pm, a walk through Penllyn Wells and Woods is planned, starting from the Red Fox Inn, Penllyn.

BARRY 2nd XV SULLY

whistle. Team: Adams; Harris, Alyn Evans; D Williams; . Williams, Hollister, Turnbull (c) Haskell; McTavish; Elsworth, Hitchcock, Rolfe; Hadfield. Subs. Chow: Alex Evans: Bounds; Taylor; Cordle;

Houldey; Manley; L Man-of-the-match: L

standing collective defensive rearguard to keep them at bay, with James Hadfield and Lee Jones particularly impressive. The away side had several set piece opportunities near the Barry line, but ulti-

It was Barry who had the final attacking opportunities in the dying moments of the game, as first Ken Chow then Alex Evans both fielded high balls to unleash the pace of Ryan and substitute Luke Bounds in the counter-attack. This time, however, was the turn of However, it was some solid away Barry who scored next, defence that kept the score at 10-0 at the final

All the other junior

with Barry Sub Aqua Club - and they can take inspiration from one club member who is still making a

ter world since 1973, and a £1,000 Community Chest grant is allowing them to buy

new equipment for its youth section and to send volunteers on training courses.

Agreed by a panel of volunteers with support

SUB AQUA CLUB'S £1,000 GRANT

Norman (89) remains an 'inspiration' to young snorkellers



Barry Sub Aqua Club training officer Russell Phillips and members of the youth snorkel section with some of the new equipment they have bought thanks to a £1,000 Community Chest Grant.

Wales, the Community

organisations that aim to

provide new and improved opportunities

for local people to take

part in sports and physical activities.

At 89. Norman

Lancefield is a full 81 years older than the

club's youngest under-

water explorers, and

Explaining what he enjoys most about sub aqua, Norman said: "I

am not much of a ship-wreck man, but I like the

underwater life and find starfish, crabs and non-

animal life really inter-

esting. It's another world. My first dive was

at Martins Haven in west Wales and my latest dive

the Farne Islands off the

Northumberland coast. Norman also dived to

see the German fleet

which was scuttled at Scapa Flow in the

dived in the Red Sea

South Coast and

Scotland.

Orkney Islands when he was 80, and has since

When asked what his family think of him still

being able to show the likes of Cristiano

last September was at

took up the sport in

Chest grants scheme

supports clubs and

A SPECIAL sport-ing grant is helping young snorkellers take the plunge splash at the age of 89!

The club has been introducing people to the wonders of the underwa-

from the Vale of they would like to see Glamorgan Council's me enjoying it."
Norman's enthusiasm sports and play develop-ment team and the Sports Council for

is an inspiration to all members of the club, including the youth snorkel section, which allows eight to 15-yearolds to practise in the pool every Tuesday evening at Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School in Barry. Keen to attract new-

comers to both the youth and adult sections of the club, training officer Russell Phillips said: "Snorkelling is an ideal introduction to the underwater world for young people and is an inexpensive and fun way

to get fit.
"Meanwhile, many
adults often want to have a go at diving before taking the plunge on their holiday abroad. We are extremely grateful for the Community Chest grant which we hope will enable the club to continue to grow and attract both beginners and experienced divers to get involved." Diving officer Oliver

Leonard added: "Barry Sub Aqua Club is a great place to learn and prac-tice our sport. We have a core of incredibly welcoming members and enjoy diving around the coast of the UK, espe-cially West Wales."

You can find out more about Barry Sub Aqua Club by calling 01446 406401, emailing snorkel@barrysubaqua.org or by going online at www.barrysub-

Ronaldo a thing or two about diving at the grand age of 89, Norman said: "They think that, as long as I am able to do it.

Norman Lancefield is still making a splash with Barry Sub Aqua Club at 89 years old!

Luke notches hat trick for Dragons

by GWYN JOHN

IT was another weekend with most of the matches called off in the Vale of Glamorgan League as a result of the heavy rain. causing waterlogged pitches.

One game that did go ahead was at Windmill Lane, Llantwit Major, where Llantwit under-13A entertained Cogan B in their first match

Their lack of matches ertainly showed as the visitors had a comfortable 5-2 victory and played the better foot-

Connor Clarke and Alex Griffiths (pen) scored for Llantwit.

games were off. The mini football teams fared much better with the matches at

Windmill Lane on. Porthkerry Panthers played the under-9 Dragons and it was a high-scoring game with both sides playing well.

Luke Beattie notched a hat trick for the under 10 Dragons against Cadoxton Dragons Further goals came from Moses Gee, Bevan Howells and Laurance Bowman in a good team performance.

The under-11 Lions entertained Glenbrook Dragons which turned out to be a cracking game. Llantwit's marksmen were Toff Patel, Matthew Reynolds and Charlie Martin. Cadoxton Marvels

were the visitors to play the under-11 Tigers. It was a very close game with Leo Kelly in top form for Llantwit and team mate Harry Morgan Grant scored a very good goal.

vanhire.co.uk

WHO WANTS TO BUILD WHAT AND WHERE IN THE VA

Mr John Glover – The Meadows, St Hilary – conversion of existing garage into living accommodation to form self-contained auxiliary accommodation annexed to existing house and new single garden.

storey garage in existing Mr and Mrs Jones Keigwin, Sully Road, Reigwin, Sully Road, Penarth – conservatory to rear of property. Mr JE and Mrs PM Oakley – The Cherries, Pendoylan, Cowbridge – variation of condition 2 of CR/7365 – agricul-tural occurancy tural occupancy. Mr Jeffrey Rubinoff – **Downs Farmhouse**, Wick Road, Llantwit Major - restoration of existing grade II listed building, regularisation

of use of existing sec-ond floor involving alterations to existing rear wing, erection of two and a half storey extension to rear wing, and single storey dining room extension to rear of building. Mr and Mrs M and H Jones – Longlands Barn, Corntown Road,

ing outbuilding. Mr and Mrs RG Lewis - The Coach House, rear of Hill House, Cowbridge Road, refention of operations Ystradowen – proposed for the processing of

Corntown - alterations

and extension to exist-

application No 2007/00514/FUL. To provide pitched roof over single storey section.

Dr Nigel Brown - 2 Bradenham Place, Penarth – replacement of existing top and bot-tom bay windows with new uPVC box sash windows with vertical

opening. Vale of Glamorgan Council – Albert Road Primary School. Albert Road, Penarth

to install new ventilation plant in school kitchen and extract to the roof for Health and Safety reasons. Mr Stewart Gregory – 2

Pembroke Terrace, Penarth - rear alterations and side exten-

Mrs Cory – 19 Talyfan Close, Cowbridge – conservatory with glass roof and rendered walls. Mr Paul Howes -Sycamore House, The Walk, Bonvilston addition of one room, single storey extension to side of garage. Mr Tim Lewis – 22

Munro Place, Barry two storey extension. Mr David Williams – Brigham Farm, Llanharry, Pontyclun

 retrospective planning application for the amendments to planning timber waste for agri-

LOCAL PLANNING APPLICATIONS

cultural purposes including storage of plant and equipment when not in use and completion of partlyconstructed extension to farmyard.

St Aubin Nurseries – 34 Archer Road, Penarth - retention of a wooden cabin for a use falling within the definition of use Class D1.

Co-operative Group – Somerfield Stores, The Precinct, Llantwit Major – fascia signs externally illuminated by trough light x 3 (A,

by trough right x 5 (A, C and D). Ms PM Murray – 54 Porth Y Castell, Barry – new sun lounge and breakfast room, including internal alterations to rear of dwelling. Mrs April Bullen -Cynan Close, Barry development of six community allotments with associated building and roadway, replacement fencing and gated for vehicle and pedestrian access.

Mr M Payter – 20 Baroness Place, Penarth - proposed dormer to rear of prop-

Mr Michael Fardy – Le Lechmere, Wick Road,

Llandow - installation of intermediate floor within garage to provide additional bedroom and en-suite

Mrs Antonia Bridges Maes Y Coed Family Centre, Gladstone Road, Barry – internal refurbishment, new entrance to car park and canopy to main pedestrian entrance.

Mr James Hadley Lextan Limited, 95 Holton Road, Barry retention of illuminated signage to shopfront. Mr Mike Psaila – Upper Langcross

Farm, Leckwith retention of mobile home for agricultural purposes for a three-

year period. Mr Nick James – Old Place, Castle Street, Llantwit Major - construction of a new two-storey stoneclad pitched roof dwelling with base-ment access, including amendments to stone boundary walls and creation of new parking courtyard serving proposed and existing dwellings.

Vale of Glamorgan Council – Youth Offending Team, 91 Salisbury Road, Barry

internal refurbishments to improve accessibility including new lift and disabled WC New entrance door and canopy to improve access, minor alterations to elevations for the WC installations.

Mr Nick James – Old Place, Castle Street, Llantwit Major - demolition of stone boundary walls within site (as part of proposed construction of a new two-storey stoneclad pitched roof dwelling with base-ment access, including amendments to stone boundary walls and creation of new parking courtyard serving proposed and existing

dwellings. Mr David Burnett – Lindens Lodge, Bradford Place.

Penarth – replacement of all existing sliding sash s/w windows to Rehau Heritage style uPVC vertical sliding sash windows

TJ Bird & Sons - South Wales Golf Driving Range, Port Road East, Barry - proposed crematorium.
Mr Rhys ER Williams –

Aberogwrn Farm, Llancarfan – erection of three timber stables, tack room and hay shed. Mrs Betty Alden – 1 Mill Park, Cowbridge

single storey extension to rear and porch to

front with minor internal alterations. Mr and Mrs M Forster Marche House, Llantrithyd Road, St

Hilary – general inter-nal alterations; new window and door openings; garage extension and bedroom above. Focus DIY Ltd – **Focus** DIY Ltd, Unit 4, The

Waterfront Retail Park, Heol Ceiniog. Barry - relocation of main customer entrance Mr Graeme Oddy –

Maesydd, Llangan first floor extension to form new bedroom A larger dormer is to be created on the existing roof line.

Mr Mark Hood – plot

off Heol Y Cawl Lane, Corntown, Bridgend -two storey dwelling, to include small extension to utility area, change of use of garage to accommodate a swimming pool and solar panels. Mr and Mrs Dodd-Clark - **Hafod, Gileston** -

demolition of integral garage and erection of two-storey side extension.

Mr Peter Arthur – 34 Windyridge, Dinas Powys – erection of single storey side exten-

sion. Mr Christopher Langdon – 2 Woodlands, Llanharry conservatory to side elevation.

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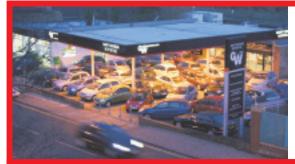
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GEM sport

Wales won't want to trip up again as they set sights on the penthouse

BACK PAGE COMMENT by Don John

ONG after passions and memories fade, the record books will simply list another emphatic win for England over Wales at Twickenham - no matter that the 30-17 score-line on Saturday paints a misleading picture of a below-par centenary clash that was decided more by profligate Welsh errors and an act of indiscipline, than superior English play per se.

The withdrawal through injury of British

Lions, Gethin Jenkins and Matthew Rees, had levelled the front row set-piece battle at the outset, but although supporters may have feared their absence would be fatal to Welsh hopes, in fact, scrum-time was thankfully not a problem.

Instead, it was that old Achilles heel, a chronically misfiring Welsh line-out, which suddenly resurfaced – as new squad mem-ber, Blues hooker Gareth Williams, though a pocket livewire in the loose - repeatedly failed to find his unfamiliar jumpers

Given these worrying difficulties, the rash trip on an opponent by Wales' main line-out jumper Alun Wyn Jones – in full view of the referee – was as inexcusable as it was to prove costly, for while he was spending his 10 minutes in the 'sin bin', his embattled 14 team mates were reeling from a 17 points blitz – as a lack-lustre England side jubilantly amassed two converted tries and a penalty that set them on the road to what had seemed an unlikely triumph.

Ironically, the big Ospreys second row

underlined what might have been when he eventually rejoined the fray and Wales launched a belated fight-back, capped by a magical try from the gifted James Hook, that took them to within three points of England's total, before yet more errors finally gifted the game to the clearly-relieved men in white.

Amazingly, in view of Wales' two decades

in the rugby wilderness when the red drag-on was regularly on the receiving end of crushing defeats at the hands of St George, this 119th fixture had begun with the two old foes locked on 53 wins apiece, with 12 matches drawn.

England may have finally inched ahead in the honour stakes, but the Welsh camp know that this really was a huge opportunity missed against a side that in truth was a

pale shadow of its illustrious predecessors of

Not only has defeat dashed Triple Crown and Grand Slam hopes for another year, at a stroke, but more importantly it has upset the Welsh camp's psychological build-up to

the World Cup Little wonder that head coach Warren Gatland and sidekick Shaun Edwards were grim-faced with anger afterwards and a chastened Alun Wyn Jones was left sweating on whether his misdemeanour would cost him his place against Scotland at the Millennium Stadium on Saturday.

In the event, when the team was unveiled on Tuesday, he had been reprieved, and it was his second row partner Luke Charteris who made way for the versatile Jonathan

Blues hooker Gareth Williams is also granted a second chance to atone for the wayward lineout at Twickenham, with Gareth Cooper still holding off the stiff chal-lenge of Richie Rees at scrum half.

Leigh Halfpenny has replaced Blues wing colleague Tom James in the only other change to the starting line-up, but the team will be cheered to have the reassuring presence of Gethin Jenkins on the replacements

Scotland were completely outclassed by tournament favourites France in going down 18-9 at Murrayfield, but will surely present tougher opposition at the Millennium Stadium, where they have enjoyed a great

deal of success in the past.

Both teams know there is still much to play for, not least in getting their mental, as much as physical preparations, back on

Wales will want to end the Six Nations up wates with want to end the Six Nations up in the penthouse, rather than down in the basement! This is a game they can and should win but only if they can keep 15 men on the field for 80 minutes.

WALLES TEAM. WALES TEAM:

Lee Byrne; Leigh Halfpenny, James Hook, Jamie Roberts, Shane Williams; Stephen Jones, Gareth Cooper; Paul James, Gareth Williams, Adam Jones, Jonathan Thomas, Alun Wyn Jones, Andy Powell, Martyn Williams, Ryan Jones (captain).

Replacements: Huw Bennett, Gethin Jenkins, Bradley Davies, Sam Warburton, Richie Rees, Andrew Bishop, Tom Shanklin.

Pencoed's pack lasts the full 80 minutes!

PRIOR to the kickPENCOED silence was held in memory of former Pencoed Glanmor (Glan) Jones, and former Oban Lorne player Rab Drummond.

The match kicked off and a thrust from flanker David Pearson took him some 40 metres, breaking tackles to score wide out. Tom Cross converted with an excellent

goal for the home side to score at the sticks. ther penalty to redict lead 10-5. Within a The half-time interval home lead to two.

LOUGHER

player the lead to 13-5.

A lineout steal from Aaron Halse on his own 22 allowed Cross to drive the visitors back into their own half. A second lineout steal from the match kicked on second mesons and in bright sunshine, with Halse appeared to enced Steve W the home side going incense the visitors, and straight on the attack, this led to a brief bout of a crisp service. fisticuffs followed by a yellow card to a retaliatory home player.
A good covering tack-

le from full-back Ken Morris then saved his kick.

Loughor then hit back ous cross-rec...

when an unfortunate slip then countered superbly, in the home midfield sleight of hand in midallowed the visitors to field saw centre Geoff dear, the visitors mauling through, for supporting the scoreline to 18-13.

Davies then kicked a further penalty to reduce the ck. side following a danger-Loughor then hit back ous cross-kick. Pencoed hen an unfortunate slip then countered superbly,

minute, Cross increased arrived with Pencoed

still on the attack, and full value for their 18-5

19

Diminutive Pencoed scrum-half Tom Davies was having a fine game against the vastly experi-enced Steve Wake, pro-viding his back line with

The visitors' outsidehalf Davies then kicked a 50-metre penalty goal. Half-backs Davies and Cross then combined to clear up a threatening

ther penalty to reduce the over home lead to two. Loughor.

Pencoed then almost

effort in what was a

quite brutal game, the

home side did not get near to scoring, which is

a testament to the tremendous determina-

tion that exists within

aspects of the Athletic

addressing, particularly the need for quicker and

Nevertheless, certain

this Athletic team.

performance need

ception, before the link pass went to ground. When Pencoed tried to run from deep, they got themselves in trouble, the visitors' outside-half Davies again profiting from the halfway line breakdown, for Loughor to lead for the first time

Thursday, February 11th, 2010

Pencoed were not to be denied, however, pressed hard, and were duly rewarded with a penalty from Cross to regain the lead approaching the final whistle.

The Pencoed pack then destroyed Loughor scrum, and finished the match strongly in the visitors' 22. The squad will surely take a lot of confidence from third-placed

TR

Bridgend Youth's iron curtain defence keeps out Abercrave

Athletic travelled to ABERCRAVE YOUTH Abercrave for this Ospreys League encounter expecting a hard game, and were not to be disappointed.

Choosing to play up the slope and against the wind in the first half was a brave call, but the Athletic players nullified any concerns with a confident performance despite missing four or

five front line players. Abercrave soon made their intentions clear with a very physical approach to all aspects of the game and their large forwards succeeded in turning over Athletic possession on several occasions.

Matters did not start particularly well for the Athletic when vice-captain Lloyd Evans was forced from the field within the first few minutes, to be replaced by Sam Treharne. However, despite the efforts of their forwards Abercrave made little headway against the usual brick wall that is the Athletic defence.

This frustration led to one mass brawl, which fortunately proved to be the last instance of foul play during the game, but it seemed to gal-vanise the Athletic to greater efforts.
Some good individual

runs came from centre James Olds and Tom Habberfield, with winger Rhys Jones and full-back Mike Phillips covering the Abercrave kicking game well and

BRIDGEND ATHLETIC

having several counter-runs of their own. The first half finished

scoreless with Abercrave having had one long range shot at goal, but the Athletic missed several scoring chances, particularly when No 8 Sean Derrick had the ball knocked out of his grasp as he powered over from a seven-yard scrum. With the odds now in

their favour, it took just two minutes for the Athletic to take the lead when, from a scrum 15 yards from the Abercrave line, their outside-half fumbled a poor pass from his partner, only for Athletic flanker Stuart Edbrooke to hack the loose ball over the line and win the touchdown for a try converted by Tom Davies. The Athletic contin-

ued to get the better of the game but several good opportunities went begging and an element of rustiness from recent inactivity was evident.
Prop Rhodri Apsee
and hooker Lee Murphy

were in the thick of the action all game and it was another 25 minutes before the decisive score came, when Mike Powell crossed for Tom Davies to convert after a good bout of passing.

James Olds crossed

shortly afterwards for the third try, converted by Tom Davies, who also added a further penalty to compound the home side's disappoint-

better alignment in the back division, which I am sure will be rectified **24** by the time they take on Penallta in the quarterfinal of the Welsh Cup However, despite their heroic physical

next Sunday, February 14, at 2-30 pm (away). On the same afternoon, the Athletic veterans make a much-awaited return to action when they take on Spanish tourists Ordizia at Newbridge Fields, kick

off 1-30pm. All old players are welcome to bring their boots.



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Cowbridge CF71

Two wins in the Rhondda for the Mermaids

PORTHCAWL under-12 squads made the iourney to Rhondda sports centre recently to play in the monthly league.

Two teams of eight were taken and all players enjoyed equal game time. The teams played both Llantrisant and Pen-y-bont Bs.

The game awareness of players such as Sophie Evans and Sophia Matthews ensured that the team claimed victory. All the players enjoyed the matches and this was evi-

Mermaids dent from the quality of the play. Shaye Wiltshire and Grace Flower played well, although Grace was sadly wheeled off with a fractured ankle.

> The attacking team was well supported by Annie James and Rachel Jones, allowing Jenny Thomas and Holly Reynolds to score valuable

On a very enjoyable day of netball, great credit must go to the ladies who organise the league, and all parents who travelled to support the girls.